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Notorious habitual offender pleads guilty to poker robbery. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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Saipan Tribune

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WALKATHON PARTNERS HONORED PSS

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter honored two of its partners yesterday—the Public School System and Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero—for their contributions toward the successful staging of its annual walkathon. ARC-NMI Chapter officials, led by executive director John Hirsh, walkathon co-chair Teyna Belyeu-Camacho, and J.D. Tenorio, presented two plaques of appreciation to the school district and Deleon Guerrero on Capital Hill.

Human waste litter Saipan's beaches

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

» BECQ says tour guides should educate tourists not to defecate on pristine beaches

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has recently discovered that tourists have been leaving an excessive trail of feces on the shores of pristine island beaches and in popular tourists sites on Saipan.

Rabauliman

BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the excessive amount of human waste were found when his staff was sent out to the beaches to acquire water samples. To their dismay, they discovered that within the caves and scattered along the beach shore, excessive human waste were found.

Rabauliman is certain that the waste found on the beaches belong to tourists because beaches like Saipan's Hidden Beach and Jeffrey's Beach are

See WASTE on Page 4

PSS ready for new school year

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

Classes in CNMI public schools start tomorrow, Aug. 16, and the Public School System is ready as ever for the new school year, according to Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero

"All schools will be ready to welcome our students on Aug. 16, 2017. Many building renovations have been completed over the summer so that our schools would be ready. The Human Resources Office has also been actively recruiting teachers and staff the entire year. There is still the need of

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AS N. KOREAN MISSILE CRISIS CONTINUES

Alert Level 1 declared for Filipinos in Marianas

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam has declared an Alert Level 1 for Filipinos in Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The Department of Foreign Affairs based in Manila approved the recommendation

See ALERT on Page 4

N. Korean tensions aren't deterring tourists from Guam

By GRACE GARCES BORDALLO and TASSANEE VEJPONGSA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)— Tourists haven't been deterred from visiting the tropical island of Guam even though the U.S. territory has been the

See TENSIONS on Page 4

A rainbow appears over Tumon Bay, Guam Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017. Residents of the U.S. Pacific island territory of Guam face a missile threat from North Korea. AP

INSIDE

NATION
The young man accused of plowing a car into a crowd of people protesting a white supremacist rally was fascinated with Nazism and idolized Adolf Hitler.
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ASIA
Tensions between the United States and North Korea tend to flare suddenly and fade almost as quickly—but the latest escalation won't likely go away quite so easily.
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LIFE & STYLE
The Teen Choice Awards, always a bubble of teenage celebration, took time out during Sunday night's ceremony to consider the world its young audience will inherit.
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Local

IN A FIRST IN THE CNMI

Hopwood Middle School to offer online classes

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

In a first for the CNMI Public School System, Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School will offer online courses to students who are off-island, but only for those with valid reasons.

Hopwood principal Rizalina Liwag said the school's online courses is a new program offered to students who are off-island for reasons that are beyond their control.

"It is a pilot program for students who need credit recovery and we offer this because some Hopwood students go off-island because their parents were affected by the CW-1 cap and we also consider emergency situations that make them go out of the island for many months that affects the flow of their studies," she said.

Liwag said the number of slots for the pilot online program is limited and she's encouraging qualified students to enroll as soon as possible.

"What we do is we can enroll them in the online course program so they can continue their studies even though they are outside the CNMI so when they come back, they remain updated with the lessons that they need to take in school," she added.

BEA CABRERA

Hopwood Middle School principal Rizalina M. Liwag said the school is ready to welcome students and excited for the new school year.

Ready for school opening

As for the school opening on Wednesday, Aug. 16, Liwag said that Hopwood management and teaching staff are ready to welcome the students.

"The preparation for this school year was smooth that is why we were able to prepare with no problems. We have painted the school, fixed the lights in the classrooms, fix the restrooms, cafeteria, as well as the bus shelter inside our school."

"Handbooks will be given to new students. As for school supplies, we only ask the students to bring notebooks and pens. The rest of school supplies we will be able to provide with a list as soon as the commissioner approves our list. We understand that not every parent can afford [the supplies]. It is only a suggested list but if they can then that would be nice because our list would contain just the basic supplies such as notebooks, rulers, pencils, and erasers," said Liwag.

To date, Hopwood is hiring one Language and Arts teacher and one CCHLS (Chamorro Carolinian Heritage Language Studies) teacher.

"During the summer, we were able to hire five teachers and staff. The job opening happened because one of the teachers resigned recently for personal reasons," Liwag said.

Hopwood welcomed many parents and students that came to register their children during the summer.

"Right now, our doors are open for enrollment and still waiting for the parents to fill the registration form and pass the requirements. We encourage them that they should register on time but we will be waiting for them for another week after school opens," Liwag said. "This week and next, our councilors will start doing some home visits to some of the families that we know should register."

ROTA INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas College students from Rota recently met with the human resource team from Fiesta Resort & Spa to discuss internship opportunities at the hotel. Photo includes NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez (standing, third from left) and NMC Rota Center director Martin Mendiola (standing, far right).

Jury trial begins for man accused of beating and robbing masseuse

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Superior Court jury trial of Jodan Santos Taitingfong started yesterday over the alleged beating of a masseuse during a robbery inside her apartment room at Micro Beach in western Garapan on July 7, 2016.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom yesterday at 4:10pm, the prosecution's third witness, former Department of Public Safety's crime scene technician Jeffrey Bahillo, was still on the witness stand.

Assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio first called to the witness stand Police Officer Jason Bahillo followed by Police Officer Rudolpho Hermosilla.

At the government's opening statements, Tenorio asked the eight jurors to listen carefully to the testimony of witnesses, look at the evidence, and return a guilty verdict against Taitingfong as to the charges of robbery, and aggravated assault, and battery.

Tenorio said testimonies and evidence will show that in the early morning of July 7, 2016, Taitingfong violently attacked the victim, causing her serious injuries, inside her room at Micro Beach Hotel.

Tenorio said the evidence such as surveillance camera will show that Taitingfong was carrying the victim's purse after she was beaten up.

In Taitingfong's opening statements, defense counsel Rosemond Santos said the defendant does not dispute that he went to the room of the alleged victim to get a massage.

Santos said the defendant, however, did not commit crimes.

"This is a case of rush to judgment," Santos said, adding that during the trial the jurors will find more questions than answers.

Jason Bahillo testified that on that day, July 7, he was assigned with the DPS Tourists Oriented Policing in Garapan when he was dispatched at 2:17am to Micro Beach about a complaint of assault and battery.

Bahillo said he learned that the suspect assaulted the masseuse in her room and that her purse containing money and items was stolen.

Bahillo said he noticed that the victim's mouth was bleeding and her left eye and cheek were swollen.

He also observed drips of blood on the floor of the bedroom, restroom, bed, and in the sink.

Bahillo said the victim was moaning in pain and she was mumbling.

He said the victim could not even say a word due to her injuries.

Bahillo said he conducted an investigation, called medics, detectives, and a crime scene technician.

Bahillo said he later interviewed the victim in the hospital with the help of an interpreter.

He said the employee of the hotel later showed him the surveillance camera's footage that captured the suspect and the victim entering the hotel's main entrance.

Bahillo said the suspect was wearing a hat and that he could not identify him in the footage.

Hermosilla testified he was a patrol officer at that time and was writing a report at DPS Central when he was dispatched to Micro Beach Hotel because of the incident.

Hermosilla said on his way to Garapan, he saw an item on the road as he was driving near the DHL office along Chalan Pale Arnold in Chalan Laulau.

Hermosilla said he picked up the item from the road because it was an obstruction to vehicles and put in the truck's bed.

Hermosilla said upon arrival at the scene, he learned that the victim's bag was stolen.

He then told an officer that he picked up from the road a bag and that he later found matched the description of the victim's stolen bag.

Police investigation showed that the purse was worth $500 and that it contained $56 and other items.

After Hermosilla, Officer Jeffrey Bahillo testified how he processed the crime scene by taking pictures.

MAJOR SPONSOR CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E is the major sponsor of the 2017 Saipan Music and Dance Studio recital, which will be held at the Saipan World Resort's Taga Hall on Sept. 2 commencing at 6pm. Proceeds from this event will go toward their fundraising goals to compete at the 2018 Hip Hop International competition. Representing IT&E in the photo is Rob C. Harrell, executive director of Customer Operations, joined by the group's manager Ester Sablan and the SMADS Dancers.

Notorious habitual offender pleads guilty to poker robbery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Marlon Martin, a notorious habitual offender, pleaded guilty yesterday in connection with the robbery at a poker establishment in Chalan Kanoa last May 22.

Martin, 33, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to the information charging him with one count of robbery.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho accepted the plea deal and the defendant's guilty plea.

Martin waived his right to have a pre-sentence investigation report. Sentencing will be on Oct. 2, 2017 at 9am.

Camacho noted the Martin has six prior criminal convictions such as armed robbery, robbery, burglary, aggravated assault and battery, and theft.

Camacho asked Martin if he understands that he is facing the maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment and that he knows he took other people's money.

Martin replied: "Is that a trivia?" Assistant public defender Nancy Dominski had to calm down her visibly upset client, Martin.

Martin then answered that everything assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas said about him committing armed robbery was true.

The Office of the Attorney General originally charged the defendant with armed robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and disturbing the peace. The charges carry a total maximum sentence of 36 years and six months.

OAG then filed an amended information charging Martin with one count of robbery. The offense carries a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, Martin unlawfully took property from Viva Poker in Chalan Kanoa or from the immediate control of the female cashier by use of immediate force or violence last May 22.

After the change of plea hearing, Camacho ordered the marshal to remand Mar-

See ROBBERY on Next Page

DEQ: Not ready for FY '18

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The federal budget cuts proposed by President Donald J. Trump will leave the Division of Environmental Quality with half of its workforce and unprepared for fiscal year 2018, according to Bureau of Environmental Coastal Quality administrator Frank Rabauliman.

Rabauliman said the division is absolutely not ready for the 47-percent budget cut that will be implemented if Trump's proposed budget is passed by U.S. Congress. That cut will directly affect the division's workforce.

Rabauliman said during an interview that among all the divisions under BECQ, the deepest cut was made to DEQ.

Last year, when a cut was implemented on the federal budget allocated for BECQ, they had to "tighten their belts" on their expenses and programs.

Rabauliman said that because of the huge cuts that would possibly be implemented in fiscal year 2018, "tightening their belts" would no longer suffice. The bureau has looked into major cutbacks in expenses but even so, it still is not enough and a reduction in DEQ's workforce would still be definite if Trump's proposal is implemented.

If the cut in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's budget is implemented, DEQ will have to cut its staff in half, leaving the division with 25 individuals on their team.

According to Rabualiman, a staff of 25 at DEQ won't be enough to run the division. He said that the slash in the division's workforce would compromise BECQ's mission in protecting public health.

As of right now, BECQ is still looking at possible ways to prepare for the worst, but Rabauliman hopes Congress will keep an open mind and will lessen the proposed cut to the EPA.

He is also hoping that the local government will help BECQ absorb the impact of the budget cut by devising an alternative to letting go of half of DEQ's staff.

"No matter what the outcome, a [budget] cut is definite and it will be very difficult, but it's necessary," said Rabualiman.

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Speaker on N. Korea: Every threat must be taken seriously

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

House Speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan) said yesterday that all threats, whether from North Korea or not, must be taken seriously and that "any threat is a cause for concern," moments after sending a letter to summon members of the local Homeland Security Office.

"We just have to take extra precaution and be ready," said the House speaker, referring to his letter addressed to Office of Homelands Security and Emergency management special assistant Gerald Deleon Guerrero.

Demapan

Demapan sent a letter yesterday to Deleon Guerrero, summoning his office to appear before the House of Representatives to "provide the members with the CNMI's preparedness, response, and mitigation plans."

"In order to better prepare and respond to the needs of our Commonwealth's security, it is imperative that the Legislature is kept in the loop with the latest information at all times and with the guidance of [Deleon Guerrero's] office, [is] also prepared to respond accordingly with clear roles and responsibilities delineated and understood in advance," wrote Demapan.

"Any threat should not be ignored and be taken seriously," said Demapan.

The North Korean threat came about after the U.S. government, led by President Donald J. Trump, said North Korea will be met with "fire and fury" should North Korea continue to issue threats to the U.S.

North Korea, obviously not happy with the response, began claiming that they were weighing to preemptively strike neighboring island Guam with four intercontinental ballistic missiles referred to as the Hwasong-14.

Despite the ongoing threats, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said, through a statement from the administration, that he has full faith in the leadership of Trump, while Guam Gov. Eddie B. Calvo shared the same sentiments about the 45th president.

Man found by cop sleeping in car on side of road acquitted of DUI

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho acquitted yesterday a man as to the charge of driving while under the influence of alcohol after finding that he was actually sleeping in his car on the side of Isa Drive in Kagman.

Camacho determined that there was no testimony that defendant Angel Cepeda Reyes operated a vehicle by driving, operating, or in actual physical control of the car.

Camacho said basically, Reyes was sleeping in his car on the side of the road and not on the road.

The judge said the Office of the Attorney General fails to put on any testimony or proof that the vehicle was actually operated up until it is parked at the location and that Reyes was actually under the influence of alcohol at the time leading up to where he parked the car.

OAG, Camacho said, still has to prove that the car was driven, operated, or in actual control in a public highway.

"That was not done," he said.

The judge said basically, OAG is prosecuting this case, which is about "parked while under the influence of alcohol."

In this case, Camacho said, a vehicle was parked on the side of the road (not on the road), which a police officer came up upon.

Camacho said DUI states that an operator must drive, operate, or be in physical control of a vehicle.

The judge also found Reyes not guilty as to the charge of refusal to take breathalyzer.

Attorney Joaquin DLG Torres served as counsel for Reyes. Assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid called two police officers to the witness stand. No exhibits were admitted as evidence. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

TENSIONS

From Page 1

target of threats from North Korea during a week of angry words exchanged by Pyongyang and Washington.

Chiho Tsuchiya of Japan heard the news, but she decided to come anyway with her husband and two children. "I feel Japan and Korea also can get danger from North Korea, so staying home is the same," said the 40-year-old.

Won Hyung-jin, an official from Modetour, a large South Korean travel agency, said several customers called with concerns, but they weren't worried enough to pay cancellation fees for their trips.

"It seems North Korea racks up tension once or twice every year, and travelers have become insensitive about it," Won said. His company has sent about 5,000 travelers to Guam a month this year, mostly on package tours.

The U.S. territory has a population of 160,000, but it attracted 1.5 million visitors last year. One third of Guam's jobs are in the tourism industry.

Guam is a key outpost for the U.S. military, which uses it as a base for bombers and submarines.

The island's sandy beaches and aquamarine waters make it a popular getaway for travelers from Japan and South Korea. Guam is only about three hours by plane from major cities in both countries.

The number of South Korean travelers in particular has been growing lately because five low-cost airlines started flying to Guam from South Korea, said Antonio Muna, the vice president of Guam Visitors Bureau. This helped boost arrival figures to a 20-year-high in July, Muna said.

The threats came in a week in which longstanding tensions between the countries risked abruptly boiling over. New United Nations sanctions condemning the North's rapidly developing nuclear program drew fresh ire and threats from Pyongyang. President Donald Trump responded by vowing to rain down "fire and fury" if challenged. The North then threatened to lob missiles near Guam.

Kenji Kikuchi, 39, arrived from Japan last week and planned to leave Tuesday as scheduled. He was aware of the threat from reading the local newspaper and was a little worried. But he said North Korea's missiles would fall in the water not on Guam. His 8-year-old son and 4-year-old daughter weren't concerned.

"They talk about it, but they don't care about it. So they like the sea and the pool," he said.

The Guam Visitors Bureau has heard reports of cancellations, but Muna said it doesn't yet have any concrete figures on how many took place. Officials are still expecting a strong August, Muna said.

"Japan and Korea make over 90 percent of our arrivals. And they're much closer to North Korea than Guam is," Muna said.

The agency has been relaying assurances from the governor and defense officials that Guam is protected and safe, he said.

Trump told Guam's Republican governor the global attention would send more tourists to the island.

"You're going to go up like tenfold with the expenditure of no money," he told Gov. Eddie Calvo in a telephone conversation Calvo posted Sunday on Facebook. Trump said he'd been watching scenes of Guam on the news, and "it just looks like a beautiful place."

Calvo replied: "It's paradise."

"We've got 95 percent occupancy and after all this stuff calms down, we're going to have 110 percent occupancy," Calvo said.

PSS

From Page 1

a few more teachers and we will continue to aggressively recruit to fill these positions," said Deleon Guerrero.

She said thanks to the CNMI Legislature giving PSS a supplemental budget, they were able to complete a number of infrastructure projects before the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

"Several school improvement projects that had been on hold last year, due to the unavailability of funds have now been completed as a result of PSS receiving a supplemental budget."

Deleon Guerrero said PSS continued to work on programs during the summer as part of its preparation for the new school year.

"Many activities have been implemented since the summer in our preparation for the new school year. Our priority areas include student safety, health, and wellbeing."

Student safety is part of PSS' priority list due to a couple of reported burglaries that happened in some schools during the summer.

"The PSS has an action plan that addresses increased security measures at all schools." Deleon Guerrero said

The PSS adheres to the benefits of accreditation to attain requirements that meet educational program standards.

"We continue to be accredited by AdvancEd. PSS received a system-wide accreditation status two years ago that covers the Board of Educaiton, PSS Central Office, 19 public elementary, middle, and high schools and 10 Head Start centers."

"AdvancEd has a globally recognized and research-based Standards for Quality School System that it applies and implements in district/system-wide accreditation process." Deleon Guerrero said.

To date, PSS does not have the final list of enrollees until registrations are completed. As for the PSS Suggested School Supplies list, Deleon Guerrero said, "the final list of Suggested School Supplies will be organized by grade level and grade clusters, and will be distributed by Week 3 of instruction."

WASTE

From Page 1

most visited by tourists. Local islanders may visit the sites but not as often as tourists.

Rabauliman was enraged by the discovery and decided that someone should be held responsible for the maintenance of popular tourist sites.

According to Rabauliman, for the past week he has been working closely with the Marianas Visitors Authority, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the Division of Parks and Recreation to enforce the tour guide certification. Rabauliman said that this is their first step into resolving the issue.

Rabauliman said that the reason for the implementation of the tour guide certification is so that tour guides will take responsibility for the tourists that they take around the island.

Rabauliman said that before cleaning up the waste, he wants to get the certification process done and have it be made a requirement because individuals that should be the most affected by the contamination of pristine beaches are the tour guides because they make a living off of the island's image.

Once the tour guide certification is established, a cleanup will be done to the sites that were contaminated and certified tour guides will be held responsible if it is discovered that there is a reoccurrence of human waste found on tourist sites once it has been cleaned out.

ALERT

From Page 1

made by Consulate General Marciano DeBorja. The approval was stated in a press release from the Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines in Agana.

"Placing Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands on Alert Level 1 for Filipino Nationals is not intended to cause undue alarm or panic. This is simply to encourage our citizens to be vigilant and to bee prepared should any critical incidents arise," said DeBorja.

The Alert Level 1 signals a precautionary phase. This phase urges Filipinos on Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to be aware of current updates on the North Korea missile crisis.

Filipinos residing on the islands mentioned are to keep themselves updated via media outlets, and official advisories from the Government of Guam's Homeland Security-Office of Civil Defense.

Filipinos are also encouraged to keep in touch with family members with any updates or possible emergencies.

Filipinos are also reminded to be prepared for immediate response in case of a sudden evacuation. Travel documents should be prepared along with a bag of necessary supplies.

According to the press release, Philippines Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Cayetano also assures Filipinos that a contingency plan is in place and if a missile is fired toward Guam, the consulate general will be ready to respond to assist affected Filipinos.

ROBBERY

From Page 3

tin into custody pending his sentencing.

According to police reports, police found Martin hiding inside a residence located in the back area of Viva Poker.

While conducting a pat down, a police detective discovered $500 in Martin's crotch area and also found a hammer and the exact clothing that he used in the robbery.

A responding police officer proceeded to the establishment that same day at 12:05pm and saw the cashier crying and rubbing her left temple.

The cashier told police that while she was in the cashier's booth, she heard the suspect, who was later identified as Martin, yelling to her that the machine was broken.

When the cashier opened the door of the cashier's booth to check, the suspect grabbed and pushed her toward the cash register.

Martin grabbed the money from the tray and ran toward the back door.

Police learned that Martin managed to run away with over $1,000. The poker arcade later learned that $2,777 was stolen.

DPL awards contract to update comprehensive land use plan

The Department of Public Lands has awarded the contract to conduct the CNMI Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update, covering Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands, to SSFM, CNMI, LLC.

Public Law 15-2 requires that DPL adopts and promulgate a comprehensive land use plan. The process of updating the land use plan will require consultation with the Public Lands Advisory Board and coordination with other permitting, development, and land management agencies, such as Saipan Zoning, Coastal Resource Management, and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, to name a few. The plan will be consistent with other comprehensive land use plans, existing legislation, and zoning laws approved for each senatorial district.

The last land use plan was completed in 1989 by DPL's predecessor, the Marianas Public Land Corp. In 2007, DPL undertook efforts to update the 1989 plan; however, that update was not completed. In 2015, DPL attempted again to update the 1989 plan; but the contracted firm rescinded due to scheduling conflicts and other commitments. Since the other proposals received exceeded DPL's budget for the land use plan, DPL canceled the RFP. After securing $1 million in the fiscal year 2016 budget for the land use plan update, DPL re-issued the RFP and entered into a contract with SSFM on Aug. 11, 2017.

A part of SSFM's contract requires that the firm provide all necessary services for designing and developing the plan. To ensure input from all stakeholders, SSFM will establish consulting teams comprised of both public and private sectors, and more importantly, SSFM will conduct public hearings for each senatorial district. These public hearings are designed as a platform to listen to the concerns and needs of the people, shaping the plan as it is developed. Other considerations will include current statutes, regulations, other existing plans, and the outdated land use plan.

Concepcion-Teregeyo

Objectives of the plan include updating DPL's inventory of all public lands, determining priority and maximum best uses of available public lands such as identifying and reserving suitable lands for residential homesteads, preserving lands that contain critical resources such as groundwater aquifers, wetlands, habitat mitigation, prime public recreation areas, sites for potential school, hospitals, transportation corridors, and sites suitable for leasing.

Completion of the plan update will take approximately one year. The updated plan will serve as both a physical- and policy-based blueprint to manage the future development of public lands in the CNMI. The plan will encompass a 10-year planning horizon and will be updated, as needed, every five years.

There have been attempts to suspend the development of public lands until a plan is adopted by DPL. In 2011, the Superior Court granted a preliminary injunction brought forth by *Friends of Marpi v. Commonwealth* stemming from the installation of power poles in Marpi. According to the court, DPL is required to adopt a land use plan in accordance with PL 15-2 before any new developments on pristine undeveloped public lands can take place.

DPL secretary Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo assures the community that they will have an opportunity to express their concerns during the initial phase and will be able to comment on the draft final phase. Moreover, DPL is actively taking measures to ensure that an adopted land use plan will be in place by this time next year.

Special assistant Michelle C. Atalig serves as the coordinator for the plan update. Atalig is working alongside SSFM to oversee the plan's progression, ensure that public concerns are taken into consideration, and that the contractual components between DPL and SSFM are fulfilled to the satisfaction of PL 15-2 and all stakeholders.

"We are seeing a significant increase in investors seeking public lands for a variety of uses. The land use plan will help DPL determine how to best utilize available public land for development, while reserving lands most suitable for homestead and preserving other lands that contain critical resources. We are excited to begin the process and we look forward to sharing the finalized plan upon completion," said Teregeyo.

For more details, visit DPL's website at www.dpl.gov.mp/www.facebook.com/DPLCNMI/ or call 234-3751. ***(DPL)***

RECRUITMENT DAY
Date: 17 Aug 2017 (Thursday)
30 Aug 2017 (Wednesday)
Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Venue: Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Banquet Hall - Azucena
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McDonald's supports MINA through cash donation

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

BEA CABRERA
From left, TASI watch community ranger Austin Piteg, Mikki Kautz, Becky Furey, MINA executive director Roberta A. Guerrero, McDonald's store general manager Joe E. Ayuyu Jr., Wayne Dawe, Celso Regino and McDonald's owner/operator Marcia E. Ayuyu pose for a group photo at McDonald's Saipan's Middle Road location.

McDonald's Saipan donated cash to the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance to support its causes in environmental stewardship and spreading environmental protection awareness by educating the community about how they can do its part.

McDonald's store general manager Joe E. Ayuyu Jr. said, "McDonald's is always happy to donate to causes that promote sustainability and environment protection. We know that this is important and this is our way of giving back to the community by supporting MINA to continue on with their projects that benefits all."

For its part, MINA is thankful for any support that comes from the business community.

"We appreciate the participation of McDonald's. They have always been a solid supporter of MINA's mission to create awareness for our community in terms of resiliency over climate change, making sure that our oceans are clean, and our reefs are alive and sustainable fishing for citizens," said MINA executive director Roberta K. Guerrero.

"Our big projects this year are students' environmental conservation where we go into the schools and work with the science teachers to teach children about keeping the environment clean, our Adopt-A Bin Project in the beaches, our TASI watch program and the upcoming Green Gala fundraiser," she added.

McDonald's and MINA have been working together over the years to help improve the quality of life on island in terms of living healthy in our natural environment.

"Every year, we learn from MINA. This partnership is geared toward building awareness about how we can be sustainable in different ways. Last year, our packaging moved from plastic and styrofoam to recyclable paper bags, paper cups, burger containers like the Big Mac box," Ayuyu Jr. said

In terms of a healthy lifestyle, he said McDonald's is moving into better ingredients.

"When we say better, we mean less preservatives. We are removing artificial flavorings. Our ice cream is an example. It used to contain artificial vanilla flavoring. We removed that and now, it has natural vanilla flavor," Ayuyu Jr. added.

MINA workers and volunteers get inspired and the will to do more increases when donations come in, according to MINA officer Becky Furey.

"Donations inspire MINA to do more. We have the support of the business community. It's an honor and keeps us motivated because we have the supporters that believe in our mission," she said.

Furey added that cash donations and in-kind donations supports MINA's projects.

"It is because of them that we are able to survive every year. We get federal and private grants but they are all put into one-year projects and a lot depends if we get approval or not every year. Funds go directly to the programs and supports the people who manage the programs."

McDonald's and MINA will continue to work with each other to meet the needs of the community.

"As part of McDonald's responsibility, we listen to groups like MINA and the community to help make the CNMI a better place—protect the Earth, protect the resources, and do what we can," Ayuyu Jr. said.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
RFQ-17-CHCC/CGC-01

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:00 PM
BID OPENING DATE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:30 PM

"SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) TREATMENT SERVICES, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER (CGC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFQ PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP17-JUDICIARY-04

SUBMISSION DATE: August 29th, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"DRUG COURT TREATMENT SERVICES FOR THE CNMI DRUG COURT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-10

SUBMISSION DATE: August 29th, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"CASE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE FOR DRUG COURTS FOR THE CNMI DRUG COURT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ HON. ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Frances A. Castro
Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing on the proposed Saipan Globe Hotel project in San Roque, Saipan. The Saipan Globe International Group, Ltd., (SGIG) is proposing to construct and operate a resort complex to include a hotel tower with 438 rooms, 98 villas, 60 employee dorms, 2 restaurants, 3,800 square feet of retail space, 14,500 square feet of event space, swimming pool, parking and support services. The proposed resort complex is located on the west side of Route 30 in San Roque, specifically on Lot Numbers 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 22, 23, 24, 48, and 50, between Aqua Resort Club and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School. Total area for all seven Lots is approximately 40,987 m² or 10.128 acres.

The public hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, August 17, 2017, at 5:00 PM at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School Cafeteria in San Roque, Saipan.**

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project files are open for review and comments during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M, Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application records and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed projects. Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Saipan Globe Hotel project.

/s/ Janice E. Castro
Acting Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
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/s/ Janice E. Castro
Acting Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

COMMONWEALTH
ZONING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) for Haohe, LLC

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Haohe, LLC is requesting to rezone Lot 347 in San Jose/Oleai, from "Village Commercial" to "Tourist Resort" zoning district for a hotel development. Lot is located north of the track & field; between Teer Drive and Oleai Street on the east side of Beach Road; directly across former Borja Funeral Home.
A public hearing will be held on:

Date: September 28, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3:00 pm, September 27, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

SIS students nab AP Scholars awards

Nineteen students at Saipan International School have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 22 percent of the 2.2 million students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams.

At SIS, eight students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are Myungjae Cho, Emily Frink, Cerinn Hwang, Shirley Qian, Colin Ramsey, Bella Shin and Kai Tam. Natalie Hardt received the highest average score of 4.67 (out of five) on six different exams, while Bella Shin passed an impressive 8 exams. Shirley Qian also qualified for the AP International Diploma by passing five exams that demonstrate a well-rounded education and a global perspective. Qian was the first SIS graduate to qualify for this diploma.

Maureen Doculan was the only SIS student to qualify for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Ten more students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with scores of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are Juliana Hanson, Hyeongchang Im, Jaehoon Jang, Hyun-Ji Kim, Jiwoo Kim, Haram Lee, Michael Lee, Stephanie Lee, Lexee Lee-Sang and Sung Jun Yoon. Notable here was Michael Lee who earned this distinction in his sophomore year.

SIS continues to refine and enrich its AP offerings. This year, it will add AP Microeconomics, AP Macroeconomics, and AP Chinese Language and Culture to its offerings with a commitment to add AP Environmental Studies and AP Calculus in the following year.

Through 34 different college-level courses and exams, AP provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement and stand out in the college admission process. Each exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that AP Exams are aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. More than 3,600 colleges and universities annually receive AP scores. Most four-year colleges in the United States provide credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP Exams (based on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest) typically experience greater academic success in college and have higher college graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of over 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success—including the SAT and the Advanced Placement Program. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools. ***(SIS)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-025

PROPOSED MAYOR'S OFFICE PERIMETER FENCE, ROTA

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the **Proposed Mayor's Office Perimeter Fence, ROTA** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **August 15, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 31, 2017**, 10:00 a.m. local time at **Rota Mayor Office, Rota.** The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 8, 2017** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division,** 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-025"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 13, 2017. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, September 13, 2017,** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 13, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **September 22, 2017.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, September 27, 2017.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on September 13, 2017.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

PUBLIC NOTICE

"CYBERTRAPS"
FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

The 15th CNMI State Board of Education (Board) would like to invite all CNMI Teachers, Administrators, School Personnel, Parent-Teacher Student Associations and School Board Members to this FREE Professional Development (PD) Training on Cybertraps. This two-day PD will be conducted by Frederick Lane, Esq. at the Grandvrio Fiesta Hall, Garapan, Saipan.

Frederick Lane, Esq. is an Attorney, Speaker, Expert Witness, Educational Consultant and Lecturer based in Brooklyn, New York. He is a nationally recognized expert in the areas of cyber-safety, digital misconduct, personal privacy, and other topics at the intersection of law, technology and society. He is the author of books such as Cybertraps for Educators, Cybertraps for the Young, American Privacy: The Four-Hundred Year History of Our Most Contested Right, to name a few.

Friday, August 18, 2017
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Elementary School Teachers – Little Swipers: Child Safety and Digital Citizenship

The age at which kids first use digital technology has absolutely plummeted over the last few years. The age at which children first use digital device is now measured in months, not years, and recent reports find that 90% of 4-year olds use one or more digital devices every single day, often hours at a time.

The immersion of even our youngest children into the digital realm is posing profound challenges for educators. Studies are beginning to assess the role that technology plays in a child's physical, emotional, and social development (particularly with respect to the nurturing of empathy and compassion). But educators, of course, are already dealing with the byproducts of toddler tech use, such as decreased attention span and cyberbullying. It will offer attendees an overview of the latest research in this area, as well as practical tips for minimizing the negative effects of toddler tech use.

Saturday, August 19, 2017
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Middle School Teachers – Cybertraps for the Young: The Risks and Rewards of the Digital Revolution

We live in a period of unprecedented interpersonal communication. Children now have more ways to interact with each other (and adults) that ever before: text messages, an infinite number of IM channels, hundreds of social media sites, and thousands of apps. The combination of amazingly powerful devices and near-instantaneous communication has the potential to revolutionize education, but at the same time, carries profound risks for our children, who often have access to devices with capabilities that exceed their judgment. As we adjust to this brave new world, we need to educate students, parents and teachers about the hidden and not-so-hidden dangers of 24/7 digital access. This session will provide educators with updated information on the issues that children are facing through the use and misuse of electronic devices, and give them an opportunity to ask questions they might have about the challenges of teaching students immersed in a wired world.

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

High School Teachers – Cybertraps for Educators: The Legal and Professional Risks of the Digital Age

Over the last several decades, technology has infused into every aspect of an educator's work, from class prep to grading. While technology offers tremendous potential for enhancing student learning, providing innovative instruction, and bridging often enormous physical distances between teachers and students, it also poses significant challenges. Thanks to the overwhelming popularity of mobile devices among students and teachers (particularly younger, more recently-certified educators), technology is weakening the traditional boundaries of the classroom. In the casual, often unsupervised world of texting, instant messaging, and social media, there's a growing risk that teachers will inadvertently (or intentionally) enter into inappropriate relationships with students. The consequences can be devastating for everyone involved: the student, the teacher, and the district. This presentation is based on five years of research and interviews with teachers, administrators, and is particularly appropriate for school administrators, school attorneys, and educators.

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Administrators and School Board Members – Cybertraps for Administrators and School Boards

This presentation builds on the work that Frederick Lane has been doing over the past four (4) years of digital misconduct by educators, as well as his personal experience as a school board member. When misconduct occurs in the school environment, administrators and school board members are typically on the front lines of the response. Thanks to rapid advance of digital technology and social media, handling such incidents is much complicated than in the past. This presentation will provide an overview of the types of incidents that can arise, a review of current and emerging technologies, and a discussion of trend in teen and pre-teen social media habits. The presentation will conclude with a series of practical suggestions regarding collaboration with legal counsel, preservation of relevant evidence, cooperation with law enforcement, and outreach to the community (including parents, government officials, and the media).

The Certification & Licensure Office will issue Certificates of Completion to all attendees and may be used as PD hours towards certification.

With a limited seating of 100, please sign up via telephone to 237-3010 with Jocelyn S. Jeter or via email to Valerie K. Malwelbug at boe.certification@cnmipss.org no later than Thursday, August 17, 2017.

Peace ceremony held on Tinian last Aug. 9

Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas hosted the Tinian Peace Ceremony at the Tinian Peace Monument in San Jose last Wednesday. This year's event, held 72 years to the day of the bombing of Nagasaki, follows a long-standing tradition of peace ceremonies held at the garden.

"For over a decade, our community has gathered here at the Tinian Peace Monument each August to affirm our commitment to peace," said San Nicolas in his welcoming remarks. "Although we are a small part of the global community, our involvement and experience during World War II makes our presence here today all the more meaningful… our support for this cause has become especially important in the present day and age, when images and news of conflict flood our news feeds."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left to right: Japan Consul Kinji Shinoda, Connie San Nicolas, Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) participate in the dedication of flowers at the Tinian Peace Monument.

Among the event's distinguished guests were Kinji Shinoda, Japan consul to the CNMI, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP). The event marked Sablan's first time ever to attend the peace ceremony on Tinian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian residents release lanterns into the water at Kammer Beach.

Accompanied by Sablan, Shinoda, and the Tinian Leadership, mayor and Mrs. San Nicolas offered a dedication of flowers and led a silent prayer for the victims of nuclear warfare, and for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons around the world. These gestures mirror those of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, held annually on Aug. 7 at the Hiroshima Peace Park.

The peace ceremony was well attended by members of the Tinian Japanese community, the Tinian Jr./Sr. High School's Japan Club, and island's *man'amko*. Many more of Tinian's residents and youth participated in the evening portion of the peace ceremony, during which 300 lanterns were released at Kammer Beach in memory of the lives lost in the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Both San Nicolas and Shinoda expressed their hope that future leaders continue the tradition of the Tinian Peace Ceremony, and that Tinian and Japan can strengthen their ties through the joint promotion of peace. ***(PR)***

PH consulate to conduct mobile consular services next month

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, in coordination with Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI, Glicerio Arago, will conduct mobile consular services on Saipan from Sept. 8 to 11 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

For this visit, the team will only process passport application. All those interested in renewing their passports are advised to prepare the following requirements:

FOR PASSPORT RENEWALS

• Please call the Philippine Honorary Consul Office at (670) 233-6293 and look for Ms. Mel Santos starting today until Sept. 1, 2017 (Mondays to Fridays, 9am to 5pm) to register and avail of the preferred slot on the said dates.

■ *Tawagan po ang Philippine Honorary Consul Office sa numerong (670) 233-6293 at hanapin si Ms. Mel Santos simula ngayon hanggang sa 01 Setyembre 2017 (Lunes hanggang Biyernes, 9am hanggang 5pm) upang makapagrehistro sa nais ninyong oras sa mga nabanggit na petsa.*

■ Please note that ONLY the 640 applicants who had pre-registered will be processed during this mission;

■ *Pakitandaan na iyon lamang 640 aplikante na nagpatala ang magagawa sa misyong kasalukuyan.*

■ The 640 applicants in the official list are each assigned a specific date and time slot;

■ *Ang 640 aplikante na nakalista sa opisyal na talaan ay may kanya-kanyang petsa at oras kung kailan sila nakatakdang pumunta.*

■ Make sure that you appear during your scheduled processing time or your slot will be cancelled and will have to register again for the next mobile consular outreach;

■ *Tiyakin na makapunta sa takdang oras at petsa, kung hindi ay mawawala ang inyong slot at kailangang magparehistro muli para sa aming susunod na mobile consular outreach.*

■ It is important to remember your confirmed assigned schedule.

■ *Mahalaga na tandaan ang inyong kumpirmadong nakatakdang araw at oras.*

REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF GREEN PHILIPPINE PASSPORT:

1. Accomplished ePassport Application form
2. Photocopy of data page of passport
3. Original passport
4. Payment of ePassport Fee (US$60.00)

REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF BROWN/MAROON PHILIPPINE PASSPORT

1. Accomplished ePassport Application form
2. Photocopy of data page of passport
3. Photocopy of birth certificate
4. Original passport
5. Payment of ePassport Fee ($60)

REQUIREMENTS FOR LOST PHILIPPINE PASSPORT

1. Accomplished ePassport Application form
2. Photocopy of data page of passport (if available)
3. Photocopy of birth certificate
4. Police Report
5. Notarized Affidavit of Loss ($25)
6. Original passport
7. Payment of Lost Passport Fee: $90 (Green/Maroon) or US$150 (ePassport) ***(PR)***

Military to conduct training at ex-Adm. Nimitz Golf Course, Outer Apra Harbor

ASAN, Guam —The military will conduct training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada on Aug. 15 and 16 from 8am to 2pm.

The military will also conduct training in outer Apra Harbor Aug. 17 from noon to 8pm.

These trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the trainings.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 15, 2000

CPA unveils $17.8 million budget for operations

The Commonwealth Ports Authority Board has approved a $17.8 million budget for the operations of the airport and seaport divisions for fiscal year 2001. However, the CPA Board is still studying the $1.68 million total budget for Capital Improvement Projects for both the airport and the seaport for next fiscal year. Total projected revenue from the airport is approximately $12.8 million but a big chunk of the money or 86 percent will be used to operate and maintain all the three airport facilities within the CNMI. This is a 6.68 percent increase over FY 2000 budget, which was previously reduced as a result of the cost-cutting measures implemented on personnel and administrative costs.

CUC's $100-M hinders Saipan power project

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. officials yesterday asked lawmakers for a bailout package that will help free the government-owned corporation from paying over $100 million debt it owed to the Commonwealth Development Authority. The move is needed to expedite construction of the new 80-megawatt power plant on Saipan since such debt elimination is one of the conditions set out by CUC's power consultants to lessen its financial risks. Utility officials, led by Board Chair Jesus T. Guerrero, met with members of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications to brief them on the status of the much-delayed project as well to discuss other concerns, including the debt.

August 15, 2004

Major ocean policy reforms urged

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy is recommending substantial reforms that will cost several billions of dollars to address the nation's dwindling ocean resources, pushing for the creation of a National Ocean Council under the office of the President. Based on the commission's recommendation, the council would be composed of all Cabinet secretaries and independent agency directors with ocean-related responsibilities. An Assistant to the President would chair the council. The commission also recommended the creation of a presidential council of advisors on ocean policy, which shall consist of non-federal government and non-government representatives throughout the nation. The commission urged the U.S. Congress to take immediate action on the proposal.

Tinian's hemodialysis project up for sole sourcing

The Tinian legislative delegation has agreed to sole source a $1.7-million hemodialysis project on Tinian. Delegation chair and Senate President Joaquin Adriano said Friday that the project would be handled by Saipan Health Clinic, also known as Health Professional Corp. "We met with SHC people today and they agreed to the concept," Adriano told reporters Friday. He said the proposed hemodialysis center will be immediately built upon approval by authorities. He expressed confidence that the sole sourcing of contract would be approved given the urgent need for the facility. The project would require the approval of the Office of the Insular Affairs since part of the money comes from 702 funds.

August 15, 2005

Govt pays CUC extra $6.4M

Amid concerns of possible illegal reprogramming, the Babauta administration has provided the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. anew with more funds, bringing the total payment so far this fiscal year to $11.4 million. This amount is $6.4 million more than the continuing appropriation, which is $5 million. Finance Secretary Fermin M. Atalig said in a statement yesterday that the government is paying CUC "extra" amid the soaring fuel prices, which hit a record high of $66 per barrel last week. CUC reportedly consumes 3 million gallons of fuel a month.

He echoed the administration's position that CUC needs money "to keep the lights on in the Commonwealth." "The CUC fuel surcharge to its customers is not enough to pay for the cost of fuel. So to keep the lights on…the administration has paid $11.4 million," said Atalig.

House to act on fuel surcharge

The House of Representatives will hold a session tomorrow primarily to act on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.' 3.5 cent fuel surcharge—whether to remove it, subsidize it or increase the electricity rate instead. Lawmakers from both the leadership and the minority bloc met yesterday in an executive meeting to address CUC concerns, particularly the fuel surcharge. The House leadership is leaning toward endorsing the bill introduced by Vice Speaker Timothy P. Villagomez, which aims to raise CUC's electricity rates in exchange for the removal of fuel surcharge and the write-off of the $45 million debt of the utility firm with the Commonwealth Development Authority. House Bill 14-362 seeks to increase the electricity for residential and non-profit groups from 11 cents to 13 cents; commercial users from 16 cents to 18 cents; and government from 16 cents to 39 cents.

CUC to present water, wastewater master plan today

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will be holding a public meeting on its conditionally approved water and wastewater master plan today, Aug. 15, 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

CUC's Water and Wastewater Master Plan has been conditionally approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agncy.

The meeting will provide information on and to receive discussion and public comment related to CUC's conditionally approved Water and Wastewater Master Plan.

Pursuant to section 3.B., Paragraph 50 of Stipulated Order Number One for Preliminary Injunctive Relief, filed under United States District Court for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. 08-0051, CUC is required to develop and submit for EPA approval a comprehensive drinking water and wastewater master plan ("Master Plan") to address the drinking water and wastewater systems needs in the CNMI for the next 20 years. The Master Plan's requirements and scope of interest is set forth further under Sections 3. b1, b2, b3 and B4 of SO1.

Copies of the conditionally approved Master Plan and SO1 are available in its entirety for review for at least the next 45 days on CUC's website at: http://www.cucgov.org. Please click on "Draaft Water and Wastewater Master Plan" to view or download the documents. A written copy of the Master Plan will also be available for inspection at the CUC Administrative Office: Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan; CUC Tinian Office; CUC Rota Office. CUC will also be providing copies of the Joeten-Kiyu Library and the Northern Marianas College Library during this time.

Written comments are also being solicited and can be mailed to CUC at P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to: CUC Administrative Office: Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan; CUC Tinian Office; CUC Rota Office. ***(CUC)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

GTC Elementary sets orientation, Open House

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School is inviting GTC families to attend the upcoming orientation/Open House on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2017, at 5pm in the school cafeteria. We will discuss important information for SY2017-2018, meet teachers and staff, as well as clarify any questions you may have. Teachers will also be available in their classrooms to meet with students and parents/guardians to share expectations set for the new school year. ***(PR)***

Fee waivers for NMC info session participants

Individuals who participate in the Northern Marianas College's upcoming information session will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's fall 2017 semester, a savings of about $75.

The information session, which is open to all, will be held on Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in Room D-1 at the college's As Terlaje campus.

NMC faculty, staff, and students from the different degree programs at NMC, as well as Student Services representatives from counseling, financial aid, and admissions will be on hand to answer questions.

NMC's Office of Admission and Records will be present that evening to accept and register students who are interested in registering for the fall 2017 semester.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis in elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), bachelor of science degree in business management; associate degrees business administration (emphasis in accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts (emphasis in education, health and physical education, and social work), nursing, natural resources management, criminal justice, and hospitality management.

For more information about the information session and/or applying to NMC, contact the Office of Admissions & Records at 237-6770, email oar@marianas.edu or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

ChaCha Oceanview orientation

ChaCha Oceanview Middle School will be having a student orientation for 7th and 8th grade today, Aug. 15, 9am, at the school cafeteria.

Call the school at 237-3165 or 664-4100/03 if you have any question or concerns. ***(PR)***

GTC Elementary sets orientation, Open House

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School is inviting GTC families to attend the upcoming orientation/Open House on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2017, at 5pm in the school cafeteria. We will discuss important information for SY2017-2018, meet teachers and staff, as well as clarify any questions you may have. Teachers will also be available in their classrooms to meet with students and parents/guardians to share expectations set for the new school year. ***(PR)***

KES orientations set

Kagman Elementary School will be having a parent/student orientation for school year 2017-2018 on the following dates:

- Aug. 15, at 9am for all 3rd to 5th Grade students

The first day of instruction will be on Aug. 16 at 7:40am. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7am. ***(PR)***

SSHS star math tests

Saipan Southern High School will hold math tests on Aug. 14 and 15, from 10am to 12pm and 2pm to 3pm. ***(PR)***

TMS information out

Tanapag Middle School would like to announce that registration for school year 2017-2018 is due. All students, new and returning, must register every school year. First day of school is Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017. Orientation is on Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017, from 5pm to 6pm in our school campus. For any questions, call the office at 664-3425. ***(PR)***

Kagman Elementary orientations set

Kagman Elementary School will be having a parent/student orientation for school year 2017-2018 on the following dates:

- Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 9am for all 3rd to 5th Grade students

In addition, the first day of instruction will be on Wednesday, Aug. 16, at 7:40am. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7am.

NMC registration for fall semester ongoing

Registration at the Northern Marianas College for the fall 2017 semester is ongoing until Aug. 18, 2017. Late registration/advising period: Aug. 14 -18, 2017

For more information, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Northern Marianas Humanities Council

Navigating the Human Experience

Call for Nominations
2017 Governor's Humanities Awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2017 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- **Research and Publication in the Humanities;**
- **Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;**
- **Preservation of CNMI History; and**
- **Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).**

A fifth category, **Lifetime Achievement**, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and **are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 13 October 2017.**

Awards will be presented in a special ceremony in October (time, date and venue to be announced).

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: FISCAL OFFICER
PAY-LEVEL: P.L. 28 / STEP 1-10
REPORTS TO: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OVERVIEW:

This is an exempt professional position responsible for the management of office/program fiscal systems including but not limited to all accounts receivables and program expenditures. The Fiscal Officer is selected by and reports to the Executive Director and works under limited supervision within prescribed standards, policies and procedures.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- ✔ Bachelors Degree (B.A. and/or B.S.) in a field related to work of this position or no less than 120 credit hours from an accredited post-secondary school in areas related to the work of this position;
- ✔ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of federal and/or state grants management systems and any applicable policies, laws and other relevant regulations; and
- ✔ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of accounting and/or auditing concepts as they apply to state and federal government funds.

HOW TO APPLY:
Interested applicants may pick up a complete job description and application forms at the NMPASI office located on middle road approximately 100 yards north of the Guala Rai traffic light intersection. Completed application packets must be submitted to the NMPASI Executive Director at the NMPASI Office. Deadline for submission of applications packet is on Monday, August 28, 2017 at 5pm. In order for applications to be considered they must include (1) a Cover Letter, (2) a Resumé, (3) Completed Application forms. Incomplete applications and/or applications which do not demonstrate that the applicant meets minimum qualifications as listed above or do not meet the deadline for submittal will not be considered. For further information, please feel free to contact Mr. James Rayphand at (670) 235-7273/4 [voice] / 235-7278 [tty] or email at jrayphand@nmpasi.org.

NMPASI is an EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

'Fire and fury' aside, tough talks are imperative

The combination of North Korea's augmenting nuclear weapons capacity and threats against United States and the region, plus America's own unclear policy toward what is happening — including President Donald Trump's threats of an unprecedented level of "fire and fury" — is becoming disturbing to Americans in their normal August torpor.

There is increasing evidence that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is making progress toward its goal of building a small enough nuclear warhead that can be mounted on an intercontinental ballistic missile that can reach from its territory to some U.S. base or property in the region, Guam or even Alaska. North Korea's spokespersons, including leader Kim Jong Un, are heralding its progress toward that goal, and perhaps also claiming progress it has not yet made.

On the American side, there is the position of Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, supported by the senior leaders of the Department of Defense who realize fully the military implications of a U.S. attack on the DPRK, that talk with North Korea is what is needed. There is also the position of Trump, who threatened Tuesday in unscripted remarks that any further North Korean threats "will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen."

Anyone ever involved in a serious exchange with another country — as, for example, the 1962 Cuban missile crisis with the Russians — should understand that when it comes to matters as critical to the future of mankind as the possibility of nuclear war, there is no advantage nor room to create confusion on the other side as to one's position.

It is worth a good look at the map to keep the North Korean issue in perspective. The DPRK is sandwiched on a peninsula between roaring "Western" economic success South Korea, which also hosts U.S. troops and heavy military hardware, and China, the world's second-largest economic power, also armed with nuclear weapons. Japan is nearby and Russia even has a short border with North Korea.

It is also important to remember that the United States has both substantial, probably effective defenses against attack and probably the capacity to mess up North Korea's missile launch codes.

A unilateral U.S. attack on North Korea should be out of the question, given the literally incalculable casualties that would result. U.S. policy should have been for years, under Democrats and Republicans, to talk with the North Koreans. Attempts to isolate countries like Cuba, Syria and the DPRK have got us nowhere in terms not only of world peace, but also in bringing about change in their policies.

Talking with North Korea is, of course, like trying to pick up an enraged porcupine. But the alternative — war — just cannot be, and threatening them with it is only to enhance the risks of just that.

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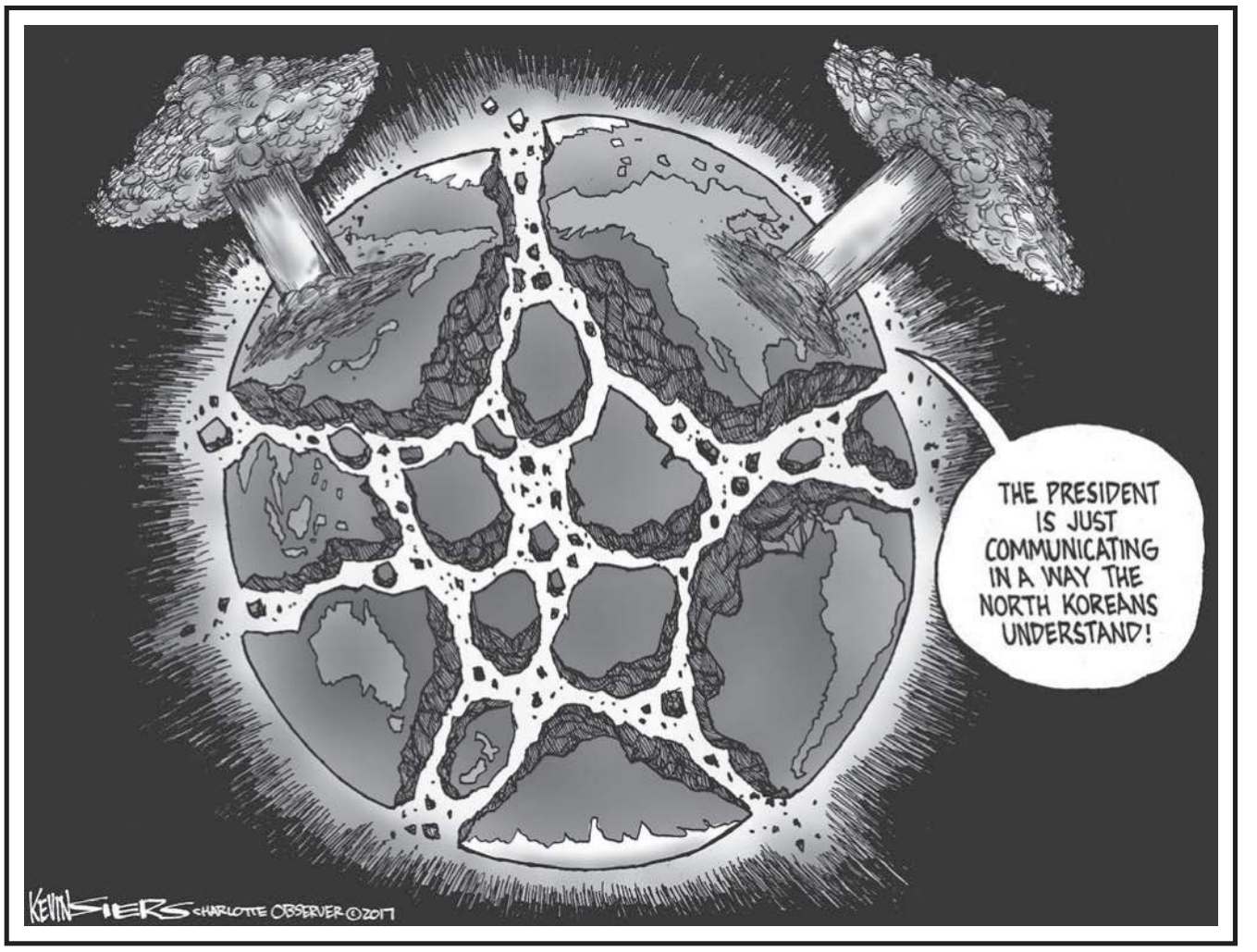


A new missile crisis, and a president ill-equipped to deal with it

By JULES WITCOVER
Tribune News Service

Jules Witcover's latest book is "The American Vice Presidency: From Irrelevance to Power," published by Smithsonian Books. You can respond to this column at juleswitcover@comcast.net.

WASHINGTON — More than half a century ago, America faced its first nuclear weapons crisis in Cuba. President John F. Kennedy avoided the threat of a Soviet missile attack then in a nail-biting confrontation with Kremlin strongman Nikita Khrushchev.

Relying more on a naval blockade and other cautious defensive measures than on bluster, he eventually got his adversary to remove nuclear missiles from our Caribbean island neighbor via negotiation, with a then-hidden deal whereby U.S. missiles in Turkey later were taken out as a rough quid pro quo.

Dean Rusk, Kennedy's secretary of state, is supposed to have described the confrontation dramatically as Kennedy going "eyeball-to-eyeball" with Khrushchev, to which he added, "I think the other fellow just blinked."

Actually, the deal was struck by JFK's brother Robert Kennedy in secret conversations with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. Only later did we learn how the slick diplomatic gambit helped both sides save face and avoid a first nuclear exchange.

Now, nearly 55 years later, it's global nail-biting time again, as North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un threatens the United States, protector of South Korea, with his rapidly building nuclear arsenal and menacing rhetoric.

This time a new and defiant American president, infamous for verbal bluster of his own, publicly warns of "fire and fury" on the Korean peninsula "the likes of which this world has never seen before" if North Korea continues on its reckless course.

President Trump declares that "hopefully, we will never have to use this power," but he tweets that this country is working to "renovate and modernize our nuclear arsenal," adding "there never will be a time that we are not the most powerful nation in the world!"

His own menacing words have sent tremors along the Pacific Rim, including China, where U.S. diplomatic efforts have been laboring to recruit major cooperation in applying economic sanctions and other pressures on Pyongyang to curb its nuclear weapons buildup.

Trump's secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, a rather benign voice in the crisis so far, has jumped in with the explanation that "what the president is doing is sending a strong message to North Korea in strong language that Kim Jong Un would understand, because he doesn't seem to understand diplomatic language."

A deputy assistant on Trump's national security staff, Sebastian Gorka, argued on Fox News that North Korea's brinkmanship "is analogous to the Cuban Missile Crisis." He interpreted Trump's remarks as warning: "Don't test America and don't test Donald J. Trump. … We are not just a superpower. We were a superpower. Now we are a hyperpower."

Gorka stated the obvious, that "nobody in the world, especially not North Korea, comes close our military capabilities, whether they're nuclear or whether they're special forces." But who would win such a war obviously is not the immediate question, when another holocaust would be the result.

Secretary of Defense James Mattis also weighed in, saying the U.S. has "the most precise, rehearsed and robust defensive and offensive capabilities on Earth." It would have been more reassuring to know he had counseled Trump to button his lip, and his tweets.

Tillerson said his boss was just "reaffirming" that the U.S. "has the capability to fully defend itself" and "will do so." He added: "So the American people should sleep well at night, (and) have no concerns about the particular rhetoric of the last few days."

During the Cuban missile crisis, Americans endured some sleepless nights, as the ships carrying Russian nukes approached Kennedy's naval blockade. As a Pentagon reporter at the time, I subsequently witnessed the withdrawal of the missiles at sea from an overflying Navy observation plane, one of the final acts ending the crisis.

The difference between then and now is that Kennedy never engaged in belligerent rhetoric while seeking behind the scenes to negotiate a way out of very frightening circumstances. Trump now appears to be using his reputation for aggressive confrontation, whether in politics or in a perilous foreign policy crisis, to stare or talk down the serious threat now facing this country, and the world, in the current face-off of conflicting egos.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Due process on campuses is just as important as protecting victims

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS
Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. *Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.*

I spent the weekend dog-sitting for a very frisky, very robust black Lab named Chance, as in there wasn't a Chance in hell he was going to obey me.

We're taking a walk, and he decides that he wants to smell the flowers on the neighbors' lawn. I say no; he gives me the same look President Trump gives his advisers, then proceeds to drag me 30 yards toward the hydrangeas. I end up with bruises on both arms, big ones that don't hurt but look fierce.

Chance and I have long since made our peace with each other, but I now appear to the outside world like an abused woman. On the subway, I catch riders glancing at my arms with surreptitious sympathy. At Wawa, the clerk gives me a knowing look, as if to say, "Dump the bastard, honey, he ain't worth it." And one of my feminist friends (I have a few, close your mouth) told me that maybe now I'll have some empathy for the women who donned pink hats to express their disgust with Trump.

I was shocked she could make that sort of comment. And then, after a brief moment's reflection, I realized that this is exactly what we can expect in the post-sexist society of knitted headwear, overwrought activists and the rush to wage an assault on the patriarchal fortress.

If I were a man and had the same misfortune to be yanked all over somebody's landscaping, no one would even suggest that my bruises had been inflicted by an abusive partner. And yet, according to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, more than 1 in 3 women and more than 1 in 4 men in the U.S. have experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. But we have come to a place in society where we reflexively view women as an endangered species.

Nowhere is that more in view than on college campuses. For the last decade or so, we have seen an increase in allegations of sexual assault made by female students against their male counterparts. Some of these claims are obviously legitimate and deserve to be treated as rape. In fact, they should be reported to the police, instead of being adjudicated by college administrators with warped priorities.

Campus dating has gone from the process of creating actual relationships to the sort of "hookup" that would have made a resident of Sodom and Gomorrah blush. Alcohol and drugs have also complicated the whole getting-to-know-you scene to the point that one inebriated half of a hookup might think he's gotten lucky, until the next morning, when he gets a call from a college administrator telling him he's been accused of assault.

Up until recently, the momentum, sympathy and benefit of the doubt have been with the accuser, who overwhelmingly tends to be female. Under Title IX, an accuser must only prove by a preponderance of the evidence that an assault has occurred. This is the classic standard used in civil — not criminal — cases and means that if someone can prove it's just "more likely than not" that a rape occurred, the accused will be found guilty.

In most of these cases, the punishment is expulsion from the Ivory Tower and a large dose of character assassination that will follow the fellow throughout his life.

To the type of person who immediately believes a woman whenever she claims to have been victimized, this makes perfect sense. To lawyers, civil libertarians and anyone who doesn't hate men, this is an outrage. Title IX does not require that an accused party be given access to the evidence against him. It does not give him the right to legal counsel. It is, for all intents and purposes, an academic Star Chamber that sacrifices due process to some squishy idea that we need to "protect our women."

This rush to throw fairness out the window picked up speed under President Barack Obama, who essentially forced colleges to adhere to these constitutionally suspect policies and use the "preponderance standard."

Fortunately, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has indicated that she wants to rescind that mandate.

And you know who'd applaud her on that? Armaan Karim Premjee, a student at the University of Southern California who was accused of raping a woman who was later proved to have initiated the sexual encounter. He'd be joined by Michael Cheng, an Amherst student who, while drunk, had oral sex performed on him by a woman who then amazingly accused him of raping her. The frat guys at the University of Virginia might be clapping, along with the Duke lacrosse players. And the guy at Columbia who was defamed by the woman with a mattress would be happy, too.

Protecting victims is important, but no more important than due process.

It's about time we took the blinders off and treated all victims equally.

Trump break with party would doom already lousy presidency

By JONATHAN BERNSTEIN
Bloomberg View

Jonathan Bernstein is a Bloomberg View columnist. He taught political science at the University of Texas at San Antonio and DePauw University and wrote A Plain Blog About Politics. *Readers may email him at jbernstein62@bloomberg.net.*

President Trump's intensifying feud with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has led to speculation that this could be a prelude to a formal break with the Republican Party.

I have no idea what's going on in Trump's mind. And it's absolutely true that he's constructed an inner circle in the White House that has very few connections to the Republican network.

And yet: Such a move would doom what is already a seriously damaged presidency. It would be a huge unforced error, placing Trump in a box with two failed 19th century presidents, John Tyler and Andrew Johnson, both of whom tried and failed to govern without a party.

The temptation for Trump, if there is one, is probably in the fact that many hard-core Trump supporters say they dislike Republicans in Congress, especially House Speaker Paul Ryan and McConnell. They also say they hate the Republican "establishment."

But how it works in practice is that those Republican-hating Republicans are also, generally, the most solid Republican voters. There are approximately zero establishment-hating conservatives who are currently shaky for Trump but would flock to him if he removed the "R" after his name. Nor do there appear to be many moderates (let alone liberals) who would consider Trump if only he wasn't calling himself a Republican.

On the other hand, at the elite level, a formal break with Republicans would almost certainly be very costly. Republican party actors, from politicians to donors to activists, would have to choose between sticking with Trump and risking their place in the party, or dumping Trump and risking the wrath of some voters. It's difficult to know how they would choose, but surely he would lose at least some people who tolerate him because he's in their party but would like an excuse to more openly oppose him.

And what Democrats would join him? Perhaps there are small numbers of conservative Democrats who might have been tempted if Trump was wildly popular. But since he's not, it's hard to see why anyone would risk it — especially since Trump has repeatedly demonstrated that he'll reward his friends only with betrayal, and that's without the further betrayal a party break would be.

All of that would have severe, and perhaps immediate, consequences. Trump's already having problems recruiting for staff positions in the White House and for executive branch positions; losing the tug of party loyalty would make that even more difficult. At the same time, Senate Republicans would lose at least some of their reason for deferring to him in confirmations. If he managed to recruit and nominate liberal Democrats for executive branch positions, Republicans would treat them the way they treated Obama's nominees (and kill them through inaction); if he nominated people with no party background, it's quite possible Republicans might oppose them, too.

So a partyless Donald Trump would find it even harder to staff his administration than it already is.

In a worst-case but entirely plausible scenario, it might mean Vice President Mike Pence choosing the party over Trump and beginning (whether he resigned or not) a 2020 campaign for the now-vacant Republican nomination, and it's entirely plausible that if Pence left he might take several cabinet-level officials with him. Recall that Pence was involved in the transition; we don't know how many of those he selected might be inclined to jump ship if Pence did.

Nor is there any policy-related reason for Trump to leave the party which nominated and elected him, even if we pretend he cares about policy.

It's true that a non-Republican Trump would find it easier to push for infrastructure spending and for a tax overhaul that punished rather than rewarded the rich. It's less clear that Trump really wants those things, however. Nor would it be likely he'd get them. There certainly doesn't appear to be any caucus of Trump-loving Republicans in Congress who would shift their positions to his if he diverged further from Republican orthodoxy. Instead, there are plenty of House and Senate Republicans who are willing to tolerate the president as long as he backs their policy preferences.

And Trump's apparent core convictions — the border wall, discriminatory immigration policies, and to some extent trade restrictions — are in trouble because they split Republicans while leaving Democrats united against them. Leaving the GOP might force a confrontation among Republicans over those issues, yes, but what would that accomplish for Trump?

The last president (as far as we know) to speculate about leaving his party was Richard Nixon, who imagined he could leave moderate and liberal Republicans behind and put together a new coalition of conservative Republicans and southern Democrats. In other words, he anticipated the future Republican Party and thought about trying to make it a reality in 1970 with one sudden action. But Trump wouldn't be pulling together two groups separated for the moment by party loyalty but otherwise quite compatible. Instead, he would be attempting to govern with only die-hard Trump personal loyalists, a group which would be almost entirely a subset of the current Republican Party.

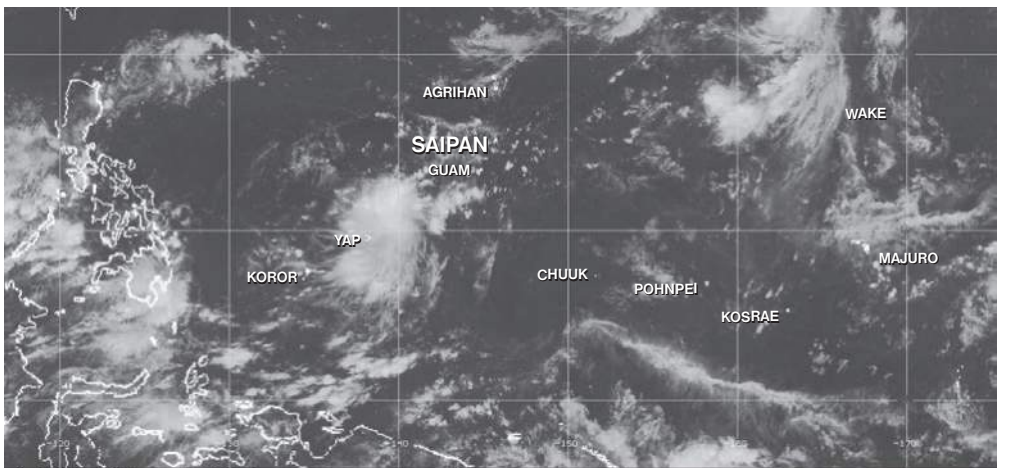
John Tyler is currently ranked 39th of 43 presidents and Andrew Johnson was ranked 42nd in the latest C-SPAN survey of historians. Trump certainly seems destined to join them in the bottom tier, but there are few things he could do to solidify that ranking as obvious as leaving the Republican Party and finding out just how few pure Trump loyalists there really are.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 10 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲ 90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:18 AM, MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A few changes made to the forecast. On Sunday night`s surface analysis a surface trough continues to be located east of the Marianas. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms developed west of the trough axis and over the local area Sunday night. By midnight the activity had decreased with only light rain and cloudy skies remaining. Models do show this lull in activity through the morning. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are expected to return after noontime and persist through the night. The trough will pass west of the Marianas by Tuesday morning then transition into a trough located north of Saipan. Southerly winds will prevail across the area south of the trough and low-level convergence in this wind flow will help keep skies mostly cloudy and produce isolated showers and thunderstorms through Tuesday night. Weak high pressure will build across the Marianas on Wednesday allowing the sun to return. Light winds will be the norm for the forecast with winds not getting much higher than 15 mph at best. Another surface trough may bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms to the Mariana`s the coming weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	61° / 50°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	91° / 72°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	91° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	72° / 54°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	76° / 64°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°
New York	Partly Cloudy	84° / 70°
Osaka	Showers	90° / 77°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 55°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	93° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorms	88° / 74°
San Francisco	Sunny	64° / 56°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	82° / 72°
Tokyo	Showers	79° / 72°
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 71°

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:26 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.91
7:33 AM	LOW TIDE	0.25
1:51 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.51
7:18 PM	LOW TIDE	0.87

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:02 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	6:02 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	6:02 AM	6:39 PM
Friday	6:02 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:24 AM	-
Wednesday	12:20 AM	1:23 PM	-
Thursday	1:14 AM	2:24 PM	-
Friday	2:11 AM	3:24 PM	-
Saturday	3:10 AM	4:23 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 15, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
ZE584	4:00pm	8:05pm	1, 3, 5
ZE584	4:35pm	8:15pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

ZE583	9:10am	2:40pm	1, 3, 5
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
ZE583	10:05am	3:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UO42	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

One-fifth of Americans find workplace hostile or threatening

WASHINGTON (AP)—The American workplace is grueling, stressful and surprisingly hostile.

So concludes an in-depth study of 3,066 U.S. workers by the Rand Corp., Harvard Medical School and the University of California, Los Angeles. Among the findings:

AP

In this Monday, June 19, 2017, photo, a person types on a laptop keyboard, in North Andover, Mass. The American workplace is grueling, stressful and surprisingly hostile. So finds an in-depth study of 3,066 U.S. workers, released Monday, Aug. 14, 2017, by the Rand Corp., Harvard Medical School and the University of California, Los Angeles.

■ Nearly one in five workers—a share the study calls "disturbingly high"—say they face a hostile or threatening environment at work, which can include sexual harassment and bullying. Workers who have to face customers endure a disproportionate share of abuse.

■ Nearly 55 percent say they face "unpleasant and potentially hazardous" conditions.

■ Nearly three quarters say they spend at least a fourth of their time on the job in "intense or repetitive physical" labor. "I was surprised at how physically demanding jobs were," says lead author Nicole Maestas, a Harvard Medical School economist.

■ Telecommuting is rare: 78 percent say they are required to be present in their workplace during working hours.

■ Only 38 percent say their jobs offer good prospects for advancement. And the older they get, the less optimistic they become.

■ About half say they work on their own time to meet the demands of their job.

"Wow—(work) is pretty taxing place for many people," Maestas says. "I was surprised by how pressured and hectic the workplace is."

In many cases, less-educated workers endure tougher working conditions. For example, fewer than half of men without college degrees can take a break whenever they want to, compared to more than 76 percent of men with college degrees. Likewise, nearly 68 percent of men without degrees spend at least a fourth of their time moving heavy loads.

Maestas wonders whether toxic working conditions are keeping Americans out of the labor force. The percentage of Americans who are working or looking for work—62.9 percent in July—has not returned to pre-recession levels and is well below its 2000 peak of 67.3 percent.

The unemployment rate is at a 16-year low, and many employers complain they can't fill jobs.

"There's a message for employers here," Maestas says. "Working conditions really do matter."

Not everything about American workplaces is grim. Workers enjoy considerable autonomy: more than 80 percent say they get to solve problems and try out their own ideas. Moreover, 58 percent say their bosses are supportive, and 56 percent say they have good friends at work.

The first-time survey of Americans ages 25-71 was carried out in 2015. It is similar to a long-running European survey, and researchers plan to conduct another survey next year and eventually to draw comparisons between U.S. and European working conditions.

Childless worker irked by kid-distracted colleagues

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: As a single woman with no children, I have become increasingly resentful of my colleagues who are parents. They regularly leave the office for meetings at school and children's medical appointments but never use leave time for these errands. Whenever their kids are sick, they are allowed to work from home.

Although I realize people with families need some flexibility, it doesn't seem fair that they work fewer hours than the rest of us. Perhaps I should also be allowed to leave early twice a week like one of the mothers in our office. Am I just being jealous and petty?

A: Being stuck at your desk while these co-workers come and go would certainly be frustrating, so your feelings are quite understandable. Parents do have to take care of children, so their needs must somehow be accommodated. But to avoid resentments, that has to be done in an equitable manner.

Instead of allowing only parents to telecommute, management should define the circumstances under which anyone can do so. If leave time is to be used for appointments and errands, this requirement should apply to everyone. And employees who must regularly depart early should be required to make up those hours.

Keep in mind that this lopsided leave policy was probably not intentional. While trying to help the parents, your employer may have simply failed to consider the other side. So instead of seething in silence, round up some other child-free folks, explain your point of view and offer suggestions for a more equitable approach.

Q: My in-laws recently asked me to handle payroll for their small business. To my surprise, I discovered that my husband's salary is about the same as the receptionist's. "Jeff" also makes less than his sister, who is extremely unreliable and has a history of drug abuse.

Jeff plays a key technical role with the company, so he clearly deserves more money. However, asking his parents for a raise will be touchy. They will also be upset that I shared salary information with him. What should we do about this?

A: This family certainly has some weird dynamics. Your husband is denied access to salary data, yet you are made responsible for payroll. Although the business belongs to his family, you aren't supposed to give him information. This arrangement actually seems stranger than the salary discrepancy.

Since Jeff is apparently not overpaid, his reluctance to talk money with his parents also seems odd. If he tends to be a timid soul, perhaps others are making more simply because they asked. But should he decide to screw up his courage, he must present a logical business case, just like any other employee.

After researching typical salaries for his position, Jeff should clearly define how his work adds value. Based on those facts, he should then request a specific increase amount. Mentioning his sister could trigger a family squabble, so her pay should not be part of this conversation.

Finally, if you are wise, you will let Jeff fight this battle on his own. While this may be a business, it is also a family, and in-laws can easily be viewed as interlopers.

Health care divide leaves tax on path to reinstatement

BOSTON (AP)—The industry that makes medical devices from artificial hips to miniature pumps for IV drips is looking for a fallback plan to repeal a widely reviled sales tax that almost met its end in GOP health care legislation.

The 2.3 percent excise, one of several taxes and fees in the Affordable Care Act that pay for expanded insurance coverage, has been the subject of ferocious lobbying by manufacturers seeking its permanent death. Yet for now it's on track to be reinstated on Jan. 1 after a two-year hiatus, leaving industry leaders worried it will hurt employment and stifle development of innovative, even lifesaving products.

"We know it resulted in job loss when it was in effect and we also know it resulted in decreased investment and development," said Patrick Hope, executive director of the Medical Imaging & Technology Alliance, one of several trade groups fighting reinstatement of the tax.

The tax covers a range of medical equipment sold to hospitals and physicians but excludes consumer items such as eyeglasses, hearing aids and diabetes kits.

Various failed versions of Republican bills to repeal and replace the Obama health care law would have killed the tax that is also unpopular with many Democrats in Congress, some representing states with thriving clusters of medical device firms.

The U.S. medical device market was valued at nearly $148 billion in 2016 with projections it will increase to $173 billion by 2019, according to Emergo, a leading industry consultant.

Companies shed 29,000 jobs from 2013-2015 when the tax was in effect, according to government data cited by the Advanced Medical Technology Association, or AdvaMed. No corresponding employment data exists yet for 2016-2017 when the tax was suspended though another trade group, the Medical Device Manufacturers Association, said a member survey found 70 percent added jobs while R&D spending increased by 19 percent on average.

Skeptics argue it's impossible to draw a straight line from the tax to overall performance by the industry and point to a variety of other factors, from consolidation to global competition, that influence trends in employment and R&D commitment.

John McDonough, a professor of public health policy at Harvard University, said he doubted the tax seriously harmed most firms while it was in effect, or that it would wreak much havoc if reinstated next year.

"The medical device industry stands out in its determination to be the one industry to get off the hook," said McDonough, noting that insurers, drugmakers and hospitals were also assessed higher taxes and fees under the ACA.

Proponents of the tax, originally estimated to raise $29 billion in net revenue over 10 years, contend industry sales can only benefit from more Americans having access to health insurance. Still, the tax has long been targeted for repeal, not only by congressional Republicans but also many Democrats who strongly back the health care law and the other taxes that go with it.

Critics have cited a 2015 analysis by the Congressional Research Service that declared the levy "challenging to justify" in terms of traditional economic and tax policy. That same report, however, also projected "fairly minor" impacts on production and employment in the medical device industry.

Boston Scientific Corp., a leading maker of heart stents and other devices, said the two-year suspension allowed for a doubling of its collaboration with Mayo Clinic on projects to help cardiovascular patients.

Clinical Innovations, a privately-held medical device company in Salt Lake City, said tax savings of about $500,000 a year helped it speed up the redesign and launch of a balloon-like device that helps doctors manage potentially fatal occurrences of postpartum hemorrhaging in women.

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Nation

Crash suspect's ex-teacher says he idolized Hitler, Nazism

FLORENCE, Ky. (AP)—The young man accused of plowing a car into a crowd of people protesting a white supremacist rally was fascinated with Nazism, idolized Adolf Hitler, and had been singled out by school officials in the 9th grade for his "deeply held, radical" convictions on race, a former high school teacher said Sunday.

James Alex Fields Jr. also confided that he had been diagnosed with schizophrenia when he was younger and had been prescribed an antipsychotic medication, Derek Weimer said in an interview with The Associated Press.

In high school, Fields was an "average" student, but with a keen interest in military history, Hitler, and Nazi Germany, said Weimer, who said he was Fields' social studies teacher at Randall K. Cooper high school in Union, Kentucky, in Fields' junior and senior years.

"Once you talked to James for a while, you would start to see that sympathy towards Nazism, that idolization of Hitler, that belief in white supremacy," Weimer said. "It would start to creep out."

Police charged Fields with second-degree murder and other counts for allegedly driving his silver Dodge Challenger through a crowd of protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia, on Saturday, killing a 32-year-old woman and wounding at least 19 other people. A Virginia State Police helicopter deployed in a large-scale police response to the violence then crashed into the woods outside of town and both troopers on board died.

The 20-year-old Fields had been photographed hours earlier carrying the emblem of Vanguard America, one of the hate groups that organized the "take America back" campaign in protest of the removal of a Confederate statue. The group on Sunday denied any association with the suspect, even as a separate hate group that organized Saturday's rally pledged on social media to organize future events that would be "bigger than Charlottesville."

AP

This photo provided by the Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail shows James Alex Fields Jr., who was charged with second-degree murder and other counts after authorities say he rammed his car into a crowd of protesters Saturday, Aug. 12, 2017, in Charlottesville, Va., where a white supremacist rally took place

The mayor of Charlottesville, political leaders of all political stripes, and activists and community organizers around the country planned rallies, vigils and education campaigns to combat the hate groups. They also urged President Donald Trump to forcefully denounce the organizations, some of which specifically cited Trump's election after a campaign of racially charged rhetoric as validation of their beliefs. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced late Saturday that federal authorities would pursue a civil rights investigation into the circumstances surrounding the crash.

Weimer recalled that school officials had singled out Fields when he was in 9th grade for his political beliefs and "deeply held, radical" convictions on race and Nazism.

"It was a known issue," he said.

Weimer said Fields left school for a while, and when he came back he was quieter about politics until his senior year, when politicians started to declare their candidacy for the 2016 presidential race. Weimer said Fields was a big Trump supporter because of what he believed to be Trump's views on race. Trump's proposal to build a border wall with Mexico was particularly appealing to Fields, Weimer said. Fields also admired the Confederacy for its military prowess, he said, though they never spoke about slavery.

As a senior, Fields wanted to join the army, and Weimer, a former officer in the Ohio National Guard, guided him through the process of applying, he said, believing that the military would expose Fields to people of different races and backgrounds and help him dispel his white supremacist views. But Fields was ultimately turned down, which was a big blow, Weimer said. Weimer said he lost contact with Fields after he graduated and was surprised to hear reports that Fields had enlisted in the army.

"The Army can confirm that James Alex Fields reported for basic military training in August of 2015, said Army spokeswoman Lt. Col. Jennifer Johnson. "He was, however, released from active duty due to a failure to meet training standards in December of 2015," she said.

Protests, vigils around US decry white supremacist rally

SEATTLE (AP)—Protesters decrying hatred and racism converged around the country on Sunday, saying they felt compelled to counteract the white supremacist rally that spiraled into deadly violence in Virginia.

The gatherings spanned from a march to President Donald Trump's home in New York to candlelight vigils in several cities. In Seattle, police made arrests and confiscated weapons as Trump supporters and counter-protesters converged downtown.

Some focused on showing support for the people whom white supremacists condemn. Other demonstrations were pushing for the removal of Confederate monuments, the issue that initially prompted white nationalists to gather in anger this weekend in Charlottesville, Virginia. Still other gatherings aimed to denounce fascism and a presidential administration that organizers feel has let white supremacists feel empowered.

"People need to wake up, recognize that and resist it as fearlessly as it needs to be done," said Carl Dix, a leader of the Refuse Fascism group organizing demonstrations in New York, San Francisco and other cities. "This can't be allowed to fester and to grow because we've seen what happened in the past when that was allowed."

AP

City Advocate Letitia James, left, wait her turn to as City Comptroller Scott Stringer address protesters at a "Peace and Sanity" rally Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017, in the Brooklyn borough of New York, during a rally about white supremacy violence in Charlottesville, Va.

"It has to be confronted," said Dix, a New Yorker who spoke by phone from Charlottesville Sunday afternoon. He had gone there to witness and deplore the white nationalist rally on a Saturday that spiraled into bloodshed.

In Seattle, a rally previously planned for Sunday by the conservative pro-Trump group known as Patriot Prayer drew hundreds of counter protesters.

A barricade separated the two groups as police officers stood by dressed in black riot gear. At one intersection, police ordered crowds to disperse.

The Seattle Times reported that officers used pepper spray on some marchers. It wasn't immediately clear how many people had been arrested.

In Denver, several hundred demonstrators gathered beneath a statue of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in City Park and marched about two miles to the state Capitol. In Fort Collins, Colorado, marchers chanted "Everyone is welcome here. No hate, no fear." One demonstrator's sign said, "Make racists ashamed again."

In New York, protesters marched from several locations in Manhattan to Trump Tower, demanding the president denounce white nationalist groups involved in the violent confrontations in Charlottesville. One sign read: "Call out evil."

Helen Rubenstein, 62, was among hundreds of people who marched through downtown Los Angeles. She said her parents were Holocaust survivors, and she's worried that extremist views were becoming normal under Trump's presidency.

Family, friends mourn 3 dead in Virginia rally violence

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—The woman killed when a car plowed into a crowd of people protesting a white nationalist rally in Virginia was described as a "true American hero" who died doing what she loved—standing up for people.

Two state troopers also died when their helicopter crashed in a wooded area while deployed as part of a large-scale police effort to contain Saturday's violence. They were remembered for their commitment and love of their jobs.

Heather Heyer, 32, was among the hundreds of protesters who had gathered in Charlottesville to decry what was believed to be the largest gathering of white supremacists in a decade—including neo-Nazis, skinheads and Ku Klux Klan members—who descended on the city to rally against plans to remove a Confederate statue.

Marissa Blair, who was with Heyer when the crash happened, said Sunday night during a vigil at the scene that Heyer's death was "an act of terror." She said it was a hate crime and should be treated as such.

Blair said Fields "barreled down," and that she could hear the wheels as he accelerated. Fields "deserves everything he gets and more," she said.

Felicia Correa, a longtime friend of Heyer, said the slain woman was a "true American hero."

She said she spoke with Heyer's mother, who is struggling with the loss. "She said, 'Heather died doing what she loved—standing up for people,'" said Correa, who by early Sunday afternoon had raised about $125,000 for Heyer's family through an online fundraising drive.

Heyer grew up in Greene County and worked as a legal assistant at a law firm. Her boss, Larry Miller, said the young woman was active in the firm's bankruptcy practice and had a "big heart."

"She cares about the people we take care of. Just a great person," he said.

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe said he was touched by the deaths of the two troopers, Lt. H. Jay Cullen and Trooper-Pilot Berke M. M. Bates, whom he knew personally. McAuliffe frequently uses state police aircraft to travel the state and said Cullen, 48, had been one of his regular pilots. Before joining the aviation unit, Bates has been a member of the state trooper team that guards the governor and his family.

Asia

Will Kim pull trigger? Possible signs to watch

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Tensions between the United States and North Korea tend to flare suddenly and fade almost as quickly—but the latest escalation won't likely go away quite so easily.

Events closer to home, including deadly violence at a white nationalist rally in Virginia, could demand more of President Donald Trump's attention in the days ahead and cut into the volume and frequency of his fiery North Korea rhetoric.

But North Korea has yet to back away from its biggest threat: a plan to lob missiles toward U.S. military bases on the island of Guam that Pyongyang says should be ready for leader Kim Jong Un to review anytime now.

Will it all stop there?

Or, despite the extremely high risks, will Kim really give the go order? And, regardless of what Kim does or doesn't do, will the tough-talking Trump feel compelled to take matters into his own hands?

Unpredictable as the situation is, some potential flashpoints to watch for:

BOMBER FLIGHTS

This could be the biggest trigger.

North Korea says it was compelled to put the Guam plan together because it feels threatened by a squadron of B-1B bombers on the island that the U.S. has increasingly sent to fly in Korean airspace in symbolic shows of force during times of particular tension.

But that may be only a pretense.

AP

In this Aug. 15, 2015, file photo, North Korean soldiers stand guard at the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in North Korea, on Liberation Day, the anniversary of the end of World War II in 1945 and the Korean Peninsula's liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

North Korea is certainly sensitive to the bombers, which could cause a lot of devastation if a war did start. But it also might just want an excuse to fully test the capabilities of its new Hwasong-12 intermediate-range missiles.

Either way, it's a cagey tactic: If Trump orders the B-1Bs to stay on the ground, Pyongyang can claim victory. If he orders them to fly, North Korea has its excuse to launch. If, of course, that's what it really wants to do—Pyongyang wisely left itself a lot of wiggle room and hasn't committed itself one way or the other.

LIBERATION DAY

Aug. 15 is the anniversary of the end of World War II in 1945 and the Korean Peninsula's liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

Pyongyang likes to use big anniversaries to make high-profile statements with military activity or political provocations. It launched its first intercontinental ballistic missile, for example, on July 4—Independence Day in the United States.

This week's World War II anniversary isn't linked so closely to veneration of North Korea's ruling Kim family, the primary days for demonstrating national power. But it's a national holiday just the same and could be an opportune moment for the North to make some kind of a move.

So far, however, there haven't been any telltale signs of anything brewing in Pyongyang. The day could just be marked with small celebrations and the distribution of free treats—or maybe more rhetoric about the Guam missile plan.

ASIAN BRIEFS

3 rebels, 2 Indian soldiers killed in Kashmir fighting

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Three Kashmiri rebels and two Indian soldiers have been killed in a fierce gunbattle in the disputed Himalayan region, police said Sunday. The fighting erupted Saturday after Indian troops raided southern Awneera village on a tip that at least seven rebels fighting New Delhi's rule over Kashmir were hiding there, said top police officer S.P. Vaid. He said militants lobbed hand grenades and fired automatic rifles from two civilian homes and an apple orchard, killing two soldiers. At least three other soldiers were wounded. Police said the firing stopped late in the night but resumed early Sunday, when three rebels were killed. Vaid said they were affiliated with the Hizbul Mujahideen, the largest Kashmiri insurgent group.

Floods, landslides triggered by heavy rain kill 47 in Nepal

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Landslides and flooding triggered by heavy rain have killed at least 47 people in southern Nepal and left thousands homeless, police said Sunday. The death toll was expected to go up, with around two dozen other people missing and feared dead after three days of heavy downpours in at least nine southern districts of the Himalayan country, said police spokesman Pushkar Karki. Around 31,000 families have been displaced by the floods and landslides, which began Friday, he said. Police said floodwaters toppled telephone towers and power lines, cutting communications and electricity in many areas.

Rescuers pull out 46 bodies after landslide hits north India

DHARAMSALA, India (AP)—Soldiers and volunteers are resuming rescue operations after pulling 46 bodies from the mud left by a landslide that trapped two buses in northern India. Police superintendent Ashok Sharma said Monday that army troops had to stop rescue operations late Sunday with more rain threatening to cause another landslide in the area. He said soldiers had managed to pull out 46 bodies from the buses that were covered with rocks and mud. District official Sandeep Kadam said the landslide in Urla village in Himachal Pradesh state on Sunday had buried part of a highway, trapping two buses, two cars and a motorbike. Sharma said one of the buses was buried deeper in the mud and the death toll could rise further. Dozens of houses also were washed away.

World

Clerical abuse scandal hits Argentine president's school

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Rufino Varela was a distraught, confused 12-year-old when he went looking for help from the school chaplain to tell him he'd been sexually abused by a mason at his family's home.

Instead of aiding, Varela says, the Rev. Finnlugh Mac Conastair took off the boy's pants, flogged him and fondled him in a room below the chapel at one of Argentina's most prestigious schools. Then, the Irish priest known by many as "Father Alfredo," offered him candy and told him that they should keep it as a secret with God.

"I had come looking for help, but I felt that it was a punishment from God," Varela said. "I came back to the classroom, holding back tears, went home and never spoke about it."

The secret was kept for nearly four decades. But in recent months, Varela's decision to break his silence has led several other former students to denounce clerical abuse at a school that has educated President Mauricio Macri and many other members of Argentina's elite.

The case is one of several that have shown the church has not been spared sexual scandals even in the home territory of Pope Francis, who has pledged a zero-tolerance policy against abuses that have rocked the church around the world.

While the pope had no connection with the abuse at the time—he led the Argentine branch of the Jesuit order with no relationship to the school—Varela said he received a call from the pontiff this year after revealing the abuse publicly.

The Cardenal Newman school was launched in Argentina in 1948 by the Christian Brothers, a religious order founded two centuries ago to focus on educating disadvantaged youth. In recent years, it has faced abuse claims at many of the schools it has opened worldwide.

At the time of Varela's 1977 encounter with Mac Conastair, the socially conservative church school had evolved into something of a refuge for children of the rich.

Varela said he decided to confront Newman authorities about the abuse after he heard that the school planned to add a crown to the lion in its coat of arms in honor of Macri, a 1976 graduate who was elected president in 2015.

"Instead of a crown, it would give me more comfort to see a whip or a crown of thorns," Varela said in a letter to the rector. "This would be in remembrance of the aberrations that many others suffered."

Varela said Newman's rector, Alberto Olivero, then met with him, offered psychological treatment and tried to dissuade him from going public with the story. The school refused to comment and referred questioners to written statements.

Frustrated at the lack of public acknowledgement, Varela said, he spoke to Argentina's La Nacion newspaper in December 2016. He also began writing about it on Facebook.

In February, his phone rang and Pope Francis was on the line. The pontiff expressed his solidarity and apologized on behalf of the church. "He told me that I needed to understand that I was a very important part of a broken link," Varela said.

Kenyan opposition leader urges followers to skip work Monday

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Kenyan opposition leader Raila Odinga urged his supporters to skip work on Monday to protest what he charged were rigged elections that gave victory to President Uhuru Kenyatta. The government denounced violent demonstrations as unlawful and urged Kenyans to return to their jobs.

Odinga spoke on Sunday to a cheering crowd in Nairobi's Kibera slum, an opposition stronghold and a frequent scene of clashes between stone-throwing protesters and police firing live ammunition and tear gas since the Aug. 8 election in which President Uhuru Kenyatta was declared the winner. Odinga's defiance fueled continuing uncertainty in Kenya, an East African economic hub whose reputation for stability has been shaken by election violence and court challenges in the past.

"There is no work until Tuesday, when we will announce the next step," said Odinga, who previously claimed that last week's vote was rigged and has unsuccessfully run for president on three previous occasions. Kenya's election commission said its process was fair, and international observers praised its handling of the election in this country of 45 million people.

Late Sunday, machete-wielding members of two rival ethnic groups—Luos and Kikuyus—confronted each other in Mathare, another Nairobi slum, witnesses said. An Associated Press journalist in the area said he saw a Luo who had a deep machete cut in his head after he was attacked by Kikuyus.

While most of Kenya has been calm since the election, the possibility of an outbreak of ethnic violence has been a concern because many Kenyans vote along ethnic lines. Kenyatta is a Kikuyu; Odinga is a Luo.

More than 1,000 people died in ethnic-fueled violence following Kenya's 2007 election. Odinga was the losing candidate in that vote, and was later made prime minister in a power-sharing agreement designed to defuse tension.

The opposition leader's announcement about his "next step" left Kenyans wondering whether Odinga would press his case that there was vote-tampering and even escalate the situation by calling for protests. One of his deputies previously ruled out the option of going to court, recalling Odinga's unsuccessful legal challenge after he lost the 2013 election. Some analysts believe it is unlikely that he would effectively acknowledge defeat at this stage.

Odinga's call for followers not to work on Monday will test his ability to mobilize his support base; it could also lead to tension if some supporters try to stop other people from going about their daily business.

Opposition areas, including the slums of Kibera and Mathare and the city of Kisumu, were mostly quiet on Sunday morning, with many people attending church services and police patrolling some streets. Late Monday afternoon, protesters threw stones and police lobbed tear gas in Mathare, according to Associated Press journalists on the scene.

Focus

AP
Researcher Tiina Jaaskelainen points out a possible sighting of wildlife aboard the Finnish icebreaker MSV *Nordica* as it traverses the Northwest Passage through the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, Saturday, July 22, 2017.

Arctic voyage finds GLOBAL WARMING impact on ice, animals

VICTORIA STRAIT, Nunavut (AP)—The email arrived in mid-June, seeking to explode any notion that global warming might turn our Arctic expedition into a summer cruise.

"The most important piece of clothing to pack is good, sturdy and warm boots. There is going to be snow and ice on the deck of the icebreaker," it read. "Quality boots are key."

The Associated Press was joining international researchers on a month-long, 10,000 kilometer (6,200-mile) journey to document the impact of climate change on the forbidding ice and frigid waters of the Far North. But once the ship entered the fabled Northwest Passage between the Atlantic and the Pacific, there would be nowhere to stop for supplies, no port to shelter in and no help for hundreds of miles if things went wrong. A change in the weather might cause the mercury to drop suddenly or push the polar pack into the Canadian Archipelago, creating a sea of rock-hard ice.

So as we packed our bags, in went the heavy jackets, insulated trousers, hats, mittens, woolen sweaters and the heavy, fur-lined boots.

Global warming or not, it was best to come prepared.

Learn more about the Arctic and read dispatches sent by a team of AP journalists as they traveled through the Arctic Circle's fabled Northwest Passage last month: https://www.apnews.com/tag/NewArctic

If parts of the planet are becoming like a furnace because of global warming, then the Arctic is best described as the world's air-conditioning unit. The frozen north plays a crucial role in cooling the rest of the planet while reflecting some of the sun's heat back into space.

Yet for several decades, satellite pictures have shown a dramatic decline in Arctic sea ice that is already affecting the lives of humans and animals in the region, from Inuit communities to polar bears. Experts predict that the impact of melting sea ice will be felt across the northern hemisphere, altering ocean currents and causing freak weather as far south as Florida or France.

"Things are changing in the Arctic, and that is changing things everywhere else," said David 'Duke' Snider, the seasoned mariner responsible for navigating the Finnish icebreaker MSV Nordica through the Northwest Passage last month.

Researchers on the trip sought a first-hand view of the effects of global warming already seen from space. Even the dates of the journey were a clue: The ship departed Vancouver in early July and arrived in Nuuk, Greenland on July 29th, the earliest transit ever of a region that isn't usually navigable until later in the year.

As it made its way through the North Pacific—passing Chinese cargo ships, Alaskan fishing boats and the occasional far-off whale—members of the expedition soaked up the sun in anticipation of freezing weeks to come.

Twelve days after the ship had left Vancouver, the ice appeared out of nowhere.

At first, lone floes bobbed on the waves like mangled lumps of Styrofoam. By the time Nordica reached Point Barrow, on Alaska's northernmost tip, the sea was swarming with ice.

Snider recalled that when he started guiding ships through Arctic waters more than 30 years ago, the ice pack in mid-July would have stretched 50 miles farther southwest. Back then, a ship also would have encountered much thicker, blueish ice that had survived several summer melts, becoming hard as concrete in the process, he said.

He likened this year's ice to a sea of porridge with a few hard chunks—no match for the nimble 13,000-ton Nordica.

Since the first orbital images were taken in 1979, Arctic sea ice coverage during the summer has dropped by an average of about 34,000 square miles each year—almost the surface area of Maine or the country of Serbia. More recent data show that not only is its surface area shrinking, but the ice that's left is getting thinner too. Snider said he has seen the ice cover reduced in both concentration and thickness.

The melting ice is one reason why modern ships have an easier time going through the Northwest Passage, 111 years after Norwegian adventurer Roald Amundsen achieved the first transit. Early explorers found themselves blinded by harsh sunlight reflecting off a desert of white, confused by mirages that give the illusion of giant ice cliffs all around, and thrown off course by the proximity of the North Pole distorting their compass readings.

Modern mariners can get daily satellite snapshots of the ice and precise GPS locations that help them dodge dangerous shallows. But technology can be fickle. After two weeks at sea the ship's fragile Internet connection went down for six days: no emails, no Google, no new satellite pictures to preview the route ahead.

The outdoor thermometer indicated a temperature of 47 degrees Fahrenheit (8.3 Celsius), but in the never-setting sun of an Arctic summer it felt more like 60 F. Days blurred into nights. Distant smoke from Cape Bathurst signaled slow-burning shale fires, while giant white golf balls indicated the remains of Cold War radar stations.

At one point a row of shacks appeared on a hill. As the ship passed by Cambridge Bay—home to Canada's High Arctic Research Station- a brief cellphone signal flickered to life, allowing one homesick sailor to make a tearful call to his family.

The Finnish crew, meanwhile, took solace in the creature comforts of home, such as the on-board sauna and reindeer roast on Saturdays.

Even in their bunks, those on board heard the constant churning of ice as the ship plowed through the debris rolling beneath the hull, thundering like hail on a tin roof.

As the icebreaker entered Victoria Strait, deep inside the Northwest Passage, we looked for a shadow moving in the distance or a flash of pale yellow in the expanse of white that would signal the presence of the world's largest land predator.

At last, a cry went out: "Nanuq, nanuq!"

Maatiusi Manning, an Inuit sailor, had spotted what everyone on board was hoping to see—the first polar bear.

The 1,000-pound predators are at the top of a food chain that's being pummeled by global warming because of the immediate impact vanishing sea ice has on a range of animals and plants that depend on it.

"If we continue losing ice, we're going to lose species with it," said Paula von Weller, a field biologist who was on the trip.

No Arctic creatures have become more associated with climate change than polar bears. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated in January that about 26,000 specimens remain in the wild. Population counts of polar bears are notoriously difficult, and researchers are unsure how much their numbers have changed in recent years. But the Fish and Wildlife Service warned that melting sea ice is robbing the bear of its natural hunting ground for seals and other prey.

While some polar bears are expected to follow the retreating ice northward, others will head south, where they will come into greater contact with humans—encounters that are unlikely to end well for the bears.

Still, being the poster child of Arctic wildlife may help the polar bear. Sightings are a highlight for adventure tourists who are flocking to Arctic cruises in increasing numbers.

Last year, the hottest on record in the Arctic, the Crystal Serenity took 1,100 high-paying guests on a cruise of the Northwest Passage, prompting environmentalists to warn of an Arctic tourism rush that could disrupt wildlife habitat. Crystal Cruises says it works closely with local guides, marine biologists and conservationists to ensure wildlife isn't harmed.

Von Weller said there are benefits to people seeing the region and its animals themselves.

"People are so far removed from the Arctic that they don't understand it, they don't know it and they don't love it," she said. "I think it's important for people to see what's here and to fall in love with it and have a bond and want to protect it."

That love may need to extend further down the food chain if the fragile ecosystem in the Arctic continues to fall apart. Some of the animals highly associated with the ice are not going to be able to adapt in a reasonable amount of time to keep up with climate change, Weller said.

"The walrus, for example, may spend more time on the mainland. They're very prone to disturbance so that's not a good place for walrus to be," said von Weller.

Research published four years ago rang alarms bells about the future of the red king crab—a big earner for Alaska's fishing industry—because rising levels of carbon dioxide, a driver of global warming, are making oceans more acidic. Scientists found that juvenile crabs exposed to levels of acidification predicted for the future grew more slowly and were more likely to die.

Algae that cling to the underside of sea ice are also losing their habitat. If they vanish, the impact will be felt all the way up the food chain. Copepods, a type of zooplankton that eats algae, will lose their source of food. The tiny crustaceans in turn are prey for fish, whales and birds.

Meanwhile, new rivals from the south are already arriving in the Arctic as waters warm. Orca have been observed traveling further north in search of food in recent years, and some wildlife experts predict they will become the main seal predator in the coming decades, replacing polar bears.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW: TOMORROW'S CAR TODAY: 2017 CHEVROLET BOLT

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

TNS
The 2017 Chevrolet Bolt EV, left, and a 1932 Chevrolet roadster at Babcock Ranch, a solar powered planned community, Friday, July 21, 2017 on Florida's Gulf Coast. The 1932 Chevrolet is a mere three inches longer than the 2017 Bolt.

BABCOCK RANCH, Fla.— I was standing in front of the ME Miami hotel in downtown Miami, just across the bay from Miami Beach, and was about to drive the new 2017 Chevrolet Bolt, an all-electric compact crossover, to Babcock Ranch on Florida's Gulf Coast.

I must admit, I had never heard of the place, and odds are, neither have you.

Nestled between Naples and Fort Meyers, it's a sustainable 18,000-acre development set among the 73,000-acre Babcock Ranch Preserve. All of its power is solar-generated on a 440-acre parcel owned and operated on the preserve by Florida Power & Light. The town's homes are built to Florida Green Building standards using sustainable local materials and are accented with native plants. Builders even relocate trees on the property in order to preserve them, something uncommon just about everywhere else.

It was a natural place to recharge the Bolt. And it's 164 miles from Miami.

It'd be tough reaching Babcock Ranch with one of the other electric cars currently available: The Hyundai Ioniq Electric has a 124-mile range, the Volkswagen e-Golf rates at 125, the Ford Focus Electric can go 115, the BMW i3 can reach 114 or 81 depending on model, the Nissan Leaf gets 107, the Kia Soul Electric does 93, the Fiat 500e can travel 84, and the Mitsubishi i-MiEV is capable of 62.

The Bolt, though, can traverse 238 miles on a single charge — so no problem.

Notice I didn't mention Tesla. The two models currently available, the Models S and X, are luxury vehicles costing two or three times more than a Bolt. And the Model 3, should you order one today, won't be available for another 12-18 months, according to Tesla's website — and we know how good the company has been at meeting its own deadlines and, for that matter, earning a profit.

And while the Model 3's slinky silhouette is more fetching than the funky, functional Bolt, buyers are increasingly choosing crossovers over sedans, and once inside the Bolt, you can understand why.

Its size is deceptive, and its shape pays big dividends in convenience. With nearly 17 cubic feet of cargo space and 95 cubic feet of passenger space — one cubic foot less than a larger BMW 330i sedan, there's ample room for four full-size adults, including a rear seat that sits high enough to comfortably satisfy those older than 10 years old.

The driver faces an instrument panel that's strikingly modern and dominated by a 10.2-inch color touch screen that's easy to reach and operate. It not only provides metrics on the car's performance, it also accommodates Apple Car Play and Android Auto. A back-up camera is standard. Other niceties include wireless phone charging and a compartment large enough to stow a tablet.

But it's the Bolt's performance that proves most pleasing.

If you've never driven an electric car, the instant rush of torque upon acceleration will delight you. Once under way, the Bolt is no sports car but proves responsive and fun to drive, thanks to quick steering and a diminutive size that makes it positively zippy.

Credit the 288 lithium ion cells that make up the battery pack. Placed between the car's axles, beneath the passenger compartment and weighing 960 pounds, it dispenses 200 horsepower and 266 pound-feet of torque. Reaching 60 mph takes 6.9 seconds.

And while you might think the speedometer is the most important gauge in a car, on the Bolt, it comes second to the power meter, which displays a minimum and maximum range as well as the actual range based on your driving habits and accessory usage.

Travelling across Alligator Alley, I encountered heavy thunderstorms, which aggressively drained the car's range. I started to have a twinge of range anxiety, as there are few EV chargers located along most of the route, despite the fact that Florida was second only to California for plug-in EV sales last year. I decided to drive in L mode, which amps up the car's regenerative braking, a system that uses energy captured during braking to recharge the battery pack. Braking is so strong you rarely need the brake pedal.

Nevertheless, my fears were unfounded.

I arrived at Babcock Ranch with 55 miles of charge to spare, enough to get me almost a third of the way home again.

Recharging, though, would take some time.

Using a 240-volt outlet, the Bolt recharges in nine hours, although it's rare that you'll ever drain the battery. A DC Fast Charger can charge up to 90 miles of range in 30 minutes, although the plug you'll need for this doesn't come standard with the car. You can use a 110-volt outlet, but it only provides 4 miles of range per hour.

While the car recharged, I did the same at the Table & Tap restaurant, following that with a night at the Brandywine model house in Babcock Farms. At 1,800 square feet, it seemed an ideal home, just like the Bolt seemed an ideal car.

And for most of us, it is.

Spacious, environmentally friendly and fun to drive, the 2017 Chevrolet Bolt is a mainstream electric car that's perfectly suitable for the demands of everyday use. With 200 horsepower, 238 miles of range and a price tag that starts at less that the average price of a new car — once you add the EV federal tax credit — it's a remarkable feat and a landmark car.

No wonder it's the 2017 North American Car of the Year.

NUTS & BOLTS

- Base prices: $37,495-$41,780
- Engine: Single permanent magnetic drive
- Battery: 288 lithium ion cells
- Horsepower: 200
- Torque: 266 pound-feet
- EPA fuel economy (city/highway): 128/110 mpg-e
- Wheelbase: 102.4 inches
- Length: 164 inches
- Cargo capacity: 16.9 cubic feet
- Curb weight: 3,580 pounds
- IIHS rating: Top safety pick

UNDER THE HOOD: Watch your transmission temperature when hauling a trailer

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: My wife and I took the plunge and bought a fifth-wheel trailer and a truck to tow it. Everything was supposedly chosen to work seamlessly together and, so far, it tows great. My question is about the transmission temperature gauge. I've never had one before and wonder what to look for when towing.

—Kirk M.

A: Sounds like a lot of fun! The added weight and drag of your trailer will increase transmission temperature, especially in hilly terrain. Normal transmission fluid temperature is about 160-175 degrees. It might rise as high as 200-220 degrees under demanding conditions but hopefully it won't go any higher. Transmission fluid degrades rapidly at higher temperatures. Cooked fluid and high operating temperature are transmission killers!

If you are ascending steep grades and find the transmission fluid temperature exceeding 220 degrees, I'd consider pulling over and enjoying at least a half hour of relaxation with the engine idling and transmission in park. Also know that downhill stretches will cool the transmission more quickly than being parked or idling.

Automatic transmissions typically employ a liquid transmission cooler within the engine-cooling system radiator. This allows engine heat to bring the transmission temperature up to the correct range quickly and then does a fairly good job of maintaining fluid temperature under moderate towing conditions. Depending on your truck's powertrain options, there's a good chance it may be equipped with an auxiliary transmission cooler (a finned rectangular device mounted in front of the radiator/air conditioning condenser). If not, you may want to consider adding one.

If you find the transmission frequently working at temperatures higher than desired, a larger auxiliary cooler, with fan, and perhaps a deep sump transmission oil pan (adds about three quarts to fluid capacity) may help. Adding a drain plug to the oil pan — if it doesn't already have one — and doing at least a partial fluid change every 15,000 miles can't hurt (about a third of the fluid drains out through the pan).

There's a good chance your truck is equipped with a tow-haul feature. Using it in hilly terrain will ease strain on the engine and transmission, as the software orders quicker downshifts, holds gears longer, allows differing operating characteristics of the torque converter clutch, and enhances engine braking on downgrades or when slowing. Tow-haul does decrease fuel economy a bit, so you may find it's best left off unless conditions warrant its use.

■■■

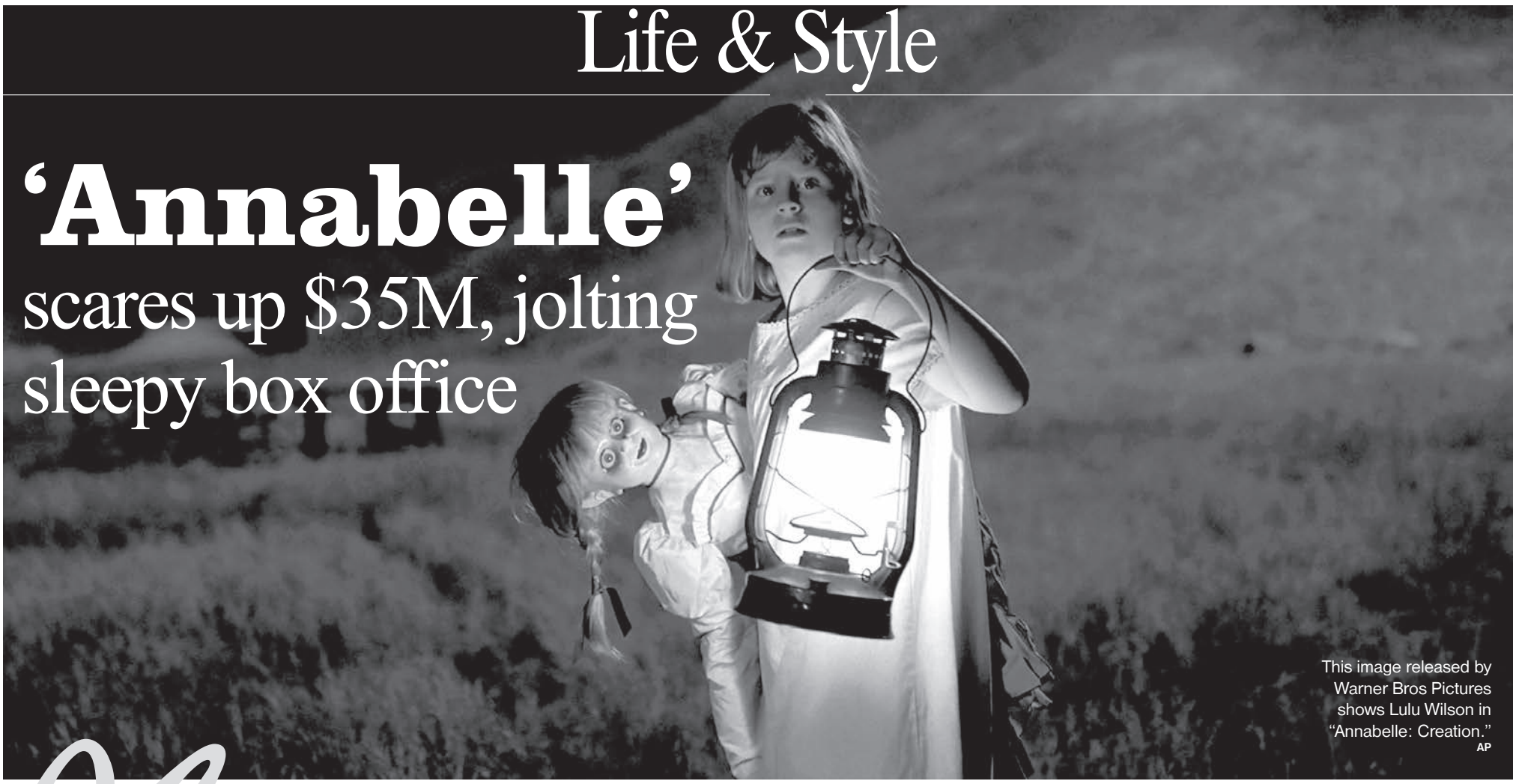
On a personal note: We're packing up to make our eleventh Alaska-to-California trip, a 3,800-mile trek that's become an annual tradition. Lots of planning and inspections are needed when you're crossing the Yukon Territory, in which you're often 500 or so miles from a suitable repair facility or place to buy supplies.

We drive about 10 hours and typically spend each night at a gravel pit. Might seem odd, but these sites make great camp spots given their wide availability, great views and lack of bugs. Through our travels, we've also learned about wonderful spots near magnificent rivers and lakes. Canadian provincial parks are also great as long as you watch out for wet paint on the meticulously maintained structures.

The days of mud bogs, two spare tires and broken windshields are largely over. Yukon gravel, for the most part, is preferable to California pavement!

Life & Style

‘Annabelle’ scares up $35M, jolting sleepy box office



This image released by Warner Bros Pictures shows Lulu Wilson in “Annabelle: Creation.” AP

NEW YORK (AP)—The “Conjuring” spinoff “Annabelle: Creation” scared up an estimated $35 million in North American theaters over the weekend, making it easily the top film and giving the lagging August box office a shot in the arm.

The opening came close to matching the film’s predecessor, “Annabelle,” which opened with $37.1 million in October 2014. Warner Bros. could celebrate not only the month’s biggest debut but also having the week’s top two films. Christopher Nolan’s “Dunkirk” followed in second with $11.4 million in its fourth weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Even amid an especially weak August, the well-reviewed horror sequel and modestly budgeted “Annabelle: Creation” found eager audiences.

“That we were able to do $35 million in what is a very sluggish marketplace was very impressive,” said Jeffrey Goldstein, Warner Bros.’ distribution chief. “We all know that moviegoing begets moviegoing and right now it’s a dip in the content overall.”

The film, the third to spiral out of 2013’s “The Conjuring,” cost only about $15 million to make. More sequels and spinoffs are being developed in what has become for Warner Bros. a steadily profitable horror franchise bent on old-school frights. The “Annabelle” offshoot centers on a possessed doll.

Last week’s top film, the poorly received Stephen King adaptation “The Dark Tower,” slid dramatically. The Sony Pictures release, starring Idris Elba and Matthew McConaughey, toppled nearly 60 percent on its second weekend with an estimated $7.9 million.

1. “**Annabelle: Creation**,” $35 million *($35 million international)*.
2. “**Dunkirk**,” $11.4 million *($14.5 million international)*.
3. “**Nut Job 2: Nutty by Nature**,” $8.9 million.
4. “**The Dark Tower**,” $7.9 million *($7.9 million international)*.
5. “**The Emoji Movie**,” $6.6 million *($14.1 million international)*.
6. “**Girls Trip**,” $6.5 million *($1.4 million international)*.
7. “**Spider-Man: Homecoming**,” $6.1 million *($12.4 million international)*.
8. “**Kidnap**,” $5.2 million.
9. “**Glass Castle**,” $4.9 million.
10. “**Atomic Blonde**,” $4.6 million *($5.2 million international)*.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore

1. “**Wolf Warrior 2**,” $83.6 million.
2. “**Annabelle Creation**,” $35 million.
3. “**Guilty of Mind**,” $23.6 million.
4. “**The Adventures**,” $22.3 million.
5. “**War for the Planet of the Apes**,” $17.1 million.
6. “**A Taxi Driver**,” $15.3 million.
7. “**Despicable Me 3**,” $15 million.
8. “**Dunkirk**,” $14.5 million.
9. “**Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets**,” $14.4 million.
10. “**The Emoji Movie**,” $14.1 million.

The week’s other new entry, the Open Road animated release “Nut Job 2: Nutty by Nature,” edged just above “The Dark Tower” with $8.9 million. That was well below the 2014 debut of the original, “The Nut Job,” which opened with $19.4 million.

But the solid returns for “Annabelle: Creation” did little to counter the box-office slide. The box office was down 31.6 percent from the same weekend last year, when “Suicide Squad” was No. 1 despite brutal reviews and Seth Rogen’s “Sausage Party” opened. The summer altogether is down 12.4 percent from last year, according to comScore.

“This is a great weekend to be a really scary doll and Warner Bros., but for everyone else, it’s just plain scary,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. “It proves the horror genre is alive and well.”

Some of July’s bright spots, however, have continued into August. The summer’s top comedy, “Girls Trip,” will soon surpass $100 million domestically. The movie, starring Jada Pinkett Smith and Queen Latifah, took in $6.5 million in its fourth week to bring its cumulative total to $97.2 million. It may end up doubling the gross of its closest summer comedy competition: the starrier and pricey “Baywatch” ($58.1 million in its entire run).

In limited release, the A24 crime thriller “Good Time,” starring Robert Pattinson, debuted with a robust $34,000 per-screen average on four screens. That was bettered, though, by the $47,000 screen-average of Neon’s “Ingrid Goes West,” with Aubrey Plaza, on three screens. Both films expand in coming weeks.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers also are included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Taylor Swift groping trial draws attention to hidden outrage

DENVER (AP)—Taylor Swift’s allegation that a former morning radio host reached under her skirt and grabbed her backside during a photo op is bringing attention to a common but largely hidden outrage for many women, one that few report.

A 2014 survey found nearly 1 in 4 women in the United States had been groped or brushed up against in a public place by a stranger at least once.

But many never talked about it, let alone went to the police. A 2015 survey of more than 16,000 people globally found more than half of the respondents outside the U.S. had been fondled or groped.

The then-girlfriend of former DJ David Mueller, who was standing with Mueller and Swift when the singer says he groped her, even testified that a co-worker had grabbed her backside at another concert.

Mueller denies groping Swift and sued the singer, saying he was fired because of her false allegation.

Late Friday, just as closing arguments were set to begin, the judge threw out Mueller’s claims against Swift—saying after he’d heard all of the evidence that Mueller could not prove Swift had anything to do with his losing his job. U.S. District Judge William Martinez also said there was no indication that Swift had made up her story.

Even before that ruling, women around the world, not all of them fans of Swift’s music, had been cheering the pop superstar for confronting the issue in federal court and keeping an unflinching attitude on the witness stand.

AP

In this courtroom sketch, pop singer Taylor Swift, front left, confers with her attorney as David Mueller, back left, and the judge look on during a civil trial in federal court Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, in Denver.

On social media, some are using a teal ribbon that represents opposition to sexual violence and praising Swift as an example for other women.

Paige Brasington, 21, a Swift fan from The Woodlands, Texas, said she was groped on public transportation while studying abroad and was glad Swift was giving attention to the issue with the same honesty she brings to her music.

The University of Georgia student was stunned the first time it happened to her on a crowded tram in Budapest, thinking there must have been an object pressed against her. After she reached down, she found a man’s hand on her butt. He exited at the next stop. When she told a male friend, he asked if she had enjoyed it.

“The most important thing about this trial is it gets people talking about this issue,” Brasington said. “It forces them to confront that it is wrong and should never happen.”

Holly Kearl, founder and director of Stop Street Harassment, which commissioned the 2014 U.S. survey, said women who speak out face not being believed or being blamed for groping, something many women have reported in sharing their stories on the group’s website.

Sometimes they do not know their rights or what the law says, or lack the time or energy to report it. However, sharing those stories online, especially through video, is helping show victims it is not uncommon and proves to others it is a problem, she said.

Pratt drops in at Teen Choice Awards but Cyrus a no-show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Teen Choice Awards, always a bubble of teenage celebration, took time out during Sunday night's ceremony to consider the world its young audience will inherit.

Hashtags, surfboards and loud shrieks dominated the Teen Choice Awards, as usual, with YouTube star Jake Paul presiding over a show designed to be tweeted, Snapchatted and put on Instagram. But with the two-hour broadcast coming a day after the violence at a rally of white nationalists in Charlottesville, Virginia, some winners pleaded for teen viewers to do better than their elders.

"With all the injustice and the hatred and everything that's happened not only in the world but in our country right now, I need for you young people, I need you guys to be educated. I need you to listen. I need you to pay attention," said "Spider-Man: Homecoming" actress Zendaya, accepting an award for best summer movie actress.

"You are the future presidents, the future senators," she added, clutching the show's trademark surfboard award. "You guys are the ones who are going to make this world better."

AP

Chris Pratt accepts the award for choice sci-fi movie actor for "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" at the Teen Choice Awards at the Galen Center on Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017, in Los Angeles.

The music performance-stuffed show, broadcast live on Fox from Los Angeles, followed a three-hour "Teen Fest" concert in downtown Los Angeles that was streamed on YouTube.

Miley Cyrus, an 18-time Teen Choice award winner, was to receive the ceremony's highest honor, the Ultimate Choice Award. But she was announced as a last-minute cancellation early in the ceremony. "I know," said presenter Victoria Justice. "It's a bummer." (Cyrus apologized on Twitter saying she created "an unrealistic schedule for myself.")

Many of the other biggest names either sent video acceptances (Bruno Mars, Gal Gadot) or were merely announced as winners (Beyonce, Zac Efron, Ariana Grande). One notable exception was Chris Pratt, who dropped by to accept his two movie awards. Pratt and his wife, Anna Farris, recently announced their separation.

That still left many teen idols for the crowd to cheer, including the cast of the CW drama series "Riverdale" (winner of seven awards) and the group Fifth Harmony, the winner of best music group and song.

Video captures Tom Cruise limping after 'MI6' stunt

NEW YORK (AP)—A video taken on the set of "Mission: Impossible 6" shows Tom Cruise limping after performing a stunt where he jumps between buildings.

The video was published Sunday by TMZ. It captures a tethered Cruise leaping to a building, hitting its side and then crawling over the top and running away. After he finished the take, Cruise is seen limping, though he was able to rappel back to the building he jumped from.

The extent of Cruise's injuries wasn't known. Neither Cruise's representatives nor Paramount Pictures returns messages Sunday.

The 55-year-old actor is well known for performing many of his own stunts.

The sixth installment in the "Mission: Impossible" franchise is currently shooting in London. It's scheduled for release in July next year.

40 years after Elvis' death, impersonators talk about legacy

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Four decades since his death, Elvis Presley still reigns as The King—for impersonators.

Few artists inspire people all over the world to dress up and perform passionately on stage like Presley. Impersonators from different generations and various countries paid tribute to their idol recently at a gathering in the Philippines. The Elvis Presley Friendship Club, Philippines International, is one of over 400 official fan clubs around the world honoring Presley on the 40th anniversary of his Aug. 16, 1977, death.

What was it about Elvis that inspires tribute artists around the globe to perform in his name after all this time? Those at the gathering in Manila speak about their motivations:

WHY DOES ELVIS RESONATE FOR YOU ALL THESE YEARS LATER?

Filipino Jun Espinosa, 44, business consultant:

"Everything for Elvis, that's the only motivation. And for the fans. Up to now I'm having this in my thought and in my mind that maybe without Elvis in me, I could not have survived certain points of my life. ... Maybe as long as I can shake, as long as I can do this, and as long as people will love Elvis, it will be there."

Ramon Jacinto, 72, musician, TV host and founder of Philippine rock 'n' roll radio station DZRJ:

"He crossed over black music roots to you know, to all nationalities. Even the Beatles were influenced by Elvis. Everybody was influenced. He was the real example of an out-of-the-box showman. And he wiggled, he had a different style of singing from the time of Frank Sinatra. ... He opened the door to carefree rock 'n' roll and the attitude."

HOW DO YOU TAILOR YOUR ELVIS ACT FOR YOUR OWN CULTURE AND AUDIENCE?

Filipina Anjeanette Japor, 22, singer:

"I still incorporate my style, like, pop and something that's modern. Definitely my songs, the arrangements are different from the original Elvis songs so that people, no matter what age you are, can still enjoy my music."

Douglas Masuda of Japan, 73, retired lawyer:

"Well, I don't really tailor anything. Just sing it the way you feel it. If you feel it, the audience feels it. It's real simple. You've got to feel it. Because I don't look like Elvis, I don't really sound like Elvis, but when I sing, you feel it, you feel Elvis coming out."

AP

In this Aug. 10, 2017, photo, Douglas Masuda, Elvis of Japan performs on stage in Manila, Philippines, for the "Elvis Tribute Night: Young Once v.s. Young Ones" event. Elvis Presley, crowned as the "King of Rock and Roll," will be celebrating his 40th death anniversary this year.

WHY IS ELVIS STILL RELEVANT 40 YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH?

Filipino Bam Angping, 21, college student:

"It's really the fans. Michael Jackson was a big, big star. But they don't have that kind of community, like, they celebrate every year impersonations. It's really the fans that caused Elvis to live this long. He was great at his time. But if it were not for the fans, probably he would be, you know, like, 'Yeah I remember him. But not really.'"

Eddie Lombardo of Italy:

"So we try to keep the name of Elvis alive. .... we're not trying to duplicate Elvis because nobody can "be" Elvis. There's only one Elvis, you know? And what we're trying to (do is) bring the memory of Elvis back to people, that's basically what we're doing."

Japor:

"In the music industry, the songs of Elvis remain a classic. Like Bruno Mars, he has a lot of rock 'n' roll songs. Most of them originated from the legends, one of which is Elvis. So I think his songs still have a great impact to the music we have nowadays. There are a lot of songs actually that were sung by Elvis that are being covered right now. And that gives a modern twist to the song. So because of that, Elvis continues to live with the music."

Girlfriend urges more pushback against disapproving parents

DEAR ABBY: I am in an interracial relationship with a guy whose parents don't support our being together because I'm from a different race and culture than he is. Our countries of origin were antagonistic in the past.

When his parents tell him to break off relations with me, he listens patiently and defends his affection for me. He does not, however, really speak up for me or point out how unfair their prejudice is, given that they've never even met me.

This is my first interracial relationship. My parents don't have a problem with it. Is it too much to ask my boyfriend to speak up the next time his parents lecture him?

UNDEFENDED IN THE SOUTH

DEAR UNDEFENDED: Not knowing your boyfriend, his parents or how they relate to one another, I can't judge whether he should challenge them any further than he is already. I think it would be a mistake for you to try to script him. You didn't mention how long you two have been involved, but if the relationship continues, they may—at some point—mellow.

DEAR ABBY: You and your readers may consider my problem trivial, but to me it's really irritating. My wife, who is in her early 60s, has the figure of a 40-year-old. She's a great lover, fabulous cook, wonderful mother to our four children and warms my heart when I see her enter the room.

The problem is, my teeth are spaced rather far apart, and food gets stuck between them. After every meal, I need to use a toothpick, yet she refuses to put toothpicks—even in an attractive container— on the table. She says they will just collect dust and are not pretty. On top of that, she refuses to allow a pill container for my vitamins or heart medicine.

I would never leave her over this, but what can I do with this stubborn, but otherwise wonderful woman?

PICK-LESS IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PICK-LESS: Your nearly perfect wife may prefer that you pick your teeth somewhere other than at the table, and would like you to take your medications elsewhere as well. While it would be nice if she were more solicitous, you may have to appreciate her for the other fine qualities you mentioned, because it doesn't appear that she's going to budge to accommodate you.

DEAR ABBY: I have a 39-year-old daughter I'll call "Angela" who attracts unsavory underground types—thieves, druggies, homeless—wherever she lives. My husband and I recently decided to move to Mexico because we are both retired. My husband and son are driving his vehicle, and I am driving my own.

My husband asked me if I wanted to invite Angela to drive with me. I'm afraid if I do, she may decide to stay with us after we arrive, and more of those unsavory types will start coming around. Should I not worry about it? I'm in need of practical advice.

RETIREE IN THE WEST

DEAR RETIREE: You are making a new start. My "practical advice" is to follow your better judgment and resist the urge to invite your daughter to accompany you on the journey.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

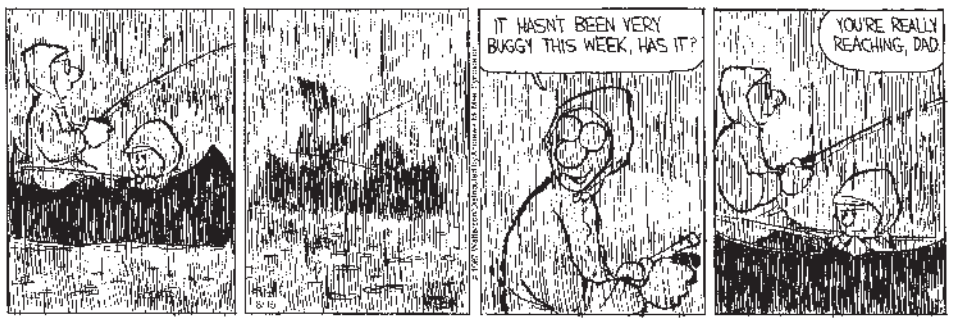
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHERE'S DAD?
TAKING A NAP.
OOH! CAN I GO MESS WITH HIM? TICKLE HIS NOSE AND WHATNOT?
NO NOSE TICKLING THIS TIME. HE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT WORKING.
WHAT ABOUT THE WHATNOT?
NO. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR NO WHATNOTTING.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

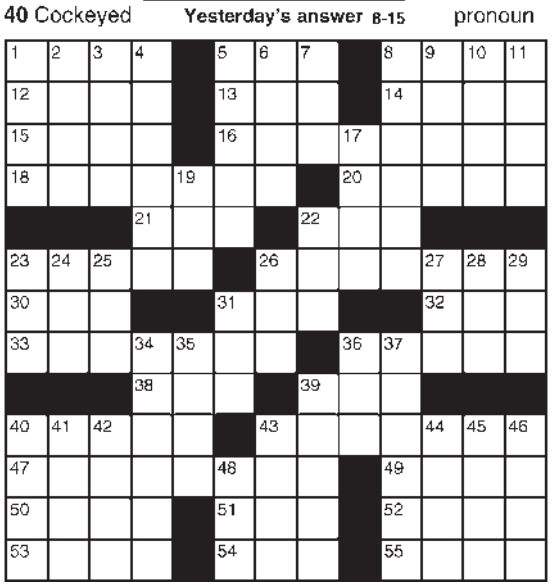
ACROSS
1 Atlas pages
5 Luau bowlful
8 Taverns
12 Start of a spell
13 Past
14 Send forth
15 Leeway
16 Prude
18 Emulate Mozart
20 Deliberately lost
21 Busy insect
22 Bearded beast
23 Tubular pasta
26 Chinese blossom
30 Tramcar contents
31 Goal
32 Cauldron
33 Pop the question
36 Syrup flavor
38 Sound of relief
39 Perched
40 Cockeyed
43 Surround
47 Hydrant attachment
49 Border on
50 Book after Joel
51 Can. neighbor
52 Fizzy drink
53 Tenant's payment
54 Scepter
55 Hardy heroine

DOWN
1 Artist Chagall
2 "Peek-—!"
3 Senior moment?
4 Chinese boat
5 Brewer Frederick
6 Leer at
7 Debtor's letters
8 Charlton Heston film
9 Cupid's specialty
10 Get up
11 Leftovers recipe
17 Sicilian spouter
19 Indivisible
22 Tiara sparkler
23 Mom's mate
24 Mess up
25 Opposite of paleo-
26 Dead heat
27 Antonym (Abbr.)
28 Scale member
29 Tours season
31 Bat wood
34 Least colorful
35 Vow
36 Buddy
37 "Finally!"
39 Golf great Sam
40 Miles away
41 Marathoner's stat
42 Press agent?
43 Canadian gas brand
44 Reed instrument
45 Bath bubbles
46 Greek vowels
48 Couple's pronoun

Solution time: 22 mins.

T	A	N	G	■	H	U	B	■	S	T	O	P
O	G	E	E	■	F	N	O	■	N	U	D	E
R	F	A	I	■	M	F	C	H	A	N	I	C
I	S	R	A	E	L	■	A	E	R	I	E	S
■	■	■	T	W	I	N	■	W	E	S	■	■
H	Y	G	I	E	N	I	C	■	D	I	M	S
A	M	A	■	R	E	P	O	S	■	A	A	A
G	A	Z	A	■	S	A	R	D	O	N	I	C
■	■	■	E	T	A	■	T	R	A	M	■	■
S	A	L	O	N	S	■	E	K	E	O	U	■
H	E	L	L	E	N	I	C	■	L	I	M	E
O	R	E	L	■	A	C	■	■	E	S	P	N
T	O	S	S	■	G	U	S	■	T	F	S	■

Yesterday's answer 8-15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jennifer Lawrence, 27; Joe Jonas, 28; Ben Affleck, 45; Anthony Anderson, 47.

Happy Birthday: Do what appeals to you. Giving in will eventually lead to a showdown. Open up about what you want and how you plan to go about reaching your goals. A steady pace and an honest approach will help you recognize and assess what is best for you. Refuse to let anyone use emotional tactics to make you feel guilty. Your numbers are 8, 13, 19, 22, 29, 34, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Share your ideas, plans or intentions with someone you love or want to form a partnership with. Discussing plans openly will help you resolve any unforeseen issues before they have time to develop. Emotional honesty will be essential. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't feel like you have to take part in something that doesn't interest you. Your intuition will not let you down when determining whether someone is being honest with you. Concentrate on something that allows you to express your creativity. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotional mayhem will ensue if you aren't forthright about what you want and what you are willing to give back. Clear the air and your personal and professional partnerships will improve. A designated space to achieve a goal will help. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't seek revenge when you should be focusing on the people and projects you enjoy the most. A business trip will bring unexpected results that can stabilize your position if you are willing to make some changes. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): If you want something, go after it. Stay focused on what you can do to make positive changes. Learn all you can and take on responsibilities that will lead to a brighter future. Don't let your emotions stand between you and your success. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): A lifestyle change can be made if you are flexible and willing to work with what's available. Call in favors and use persuasive techniques to help reach your goals. Offering incentives will bring high returns. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): A costly venture will turn into a learning experience. You may crave change, but doing so for the wrong reasons will have its downside. A problem with someone you live or work with is best handled with care, not belligerence. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Do whatever it takes to get along with someone you live or work with. Use innovative ideas to encourage greater equality in your relationships with others. Positive changes to the way you do things should be implemented into your lifestyle. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll find it difficult to decipher what's real and what isn't. Question anyone who tries to push you in one direction or another. When in doubt, take a pass and gather more information. Discipline and physical endurance will result in positive changes. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Find out all you can about a situation before you make a decision. Acting impulsively will cause a rift with someone you care about. Don't overspend on things you don't need just to impress someone. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Make adjustments at home that will help you better handle an emotional situation. Once you have a set plan in place you will feel better about moving forward. An opening will give you the chance to make a positive change. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Being overly emotional will affect your ability to see situations clearly. Take your time and observe how others respond before you make a decision that could alter your relationship with someone. Protect against costly emotional and financial disappointment. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are tenacious, outspoken and goal-oriented. You are competitive and resourceful.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

7			3		9			8
	3						6	
	2		5		6		7	
2		8				7		6
				6				
1		7				5		4
	8		7		2		1	
	9						8	
5			1		8			3

Difficulty Level ★★ 8/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	7	9	1	4	3	5	2	6
5	6	2	9	8	7	4	3	1
4	3	1	5	2	6	7	9	8
7	1	3	4	6	8	2	5	9
2	9	4	7	5	1	8	6	3
6	8	5	3	9	2	1	7	4
3	4	7	2	1	9	6	8	5
1	2	8	6	3	5	9	4	7
9	5	6	8	7	4	3	1	2

Difficulty Level ★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

PRINCE PHILIP RETIRES AT 96 Solution: 9 letters

A	N	N	E	E	C	I	L	A	N	D	R	E	W	Q
T	M	O	D	G	N	I	K	D	E	T	I	N	U	E
I	O	A	W	O	R	E	H	N	G	R	E	E	C	E
R	U	T	A	I	K	D	M	O	N	R	E	P	O	S
A	N	H	R	U	N	A	P	R	I	N	C	E	R	Y
G	T	A	D	O	R	D	E	R	E	L	U	R	F	R
R	B	R	U	K	S	I	S	L	O	R	D	W	U	R
A	A	O	T	U	T	C	I	O	T	N	I	R	P	A
M	T	D	I	R	R	Z	O	G	R	L	N	I	C	H
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Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
San Jose Village, Tinian MP 96952 CNMI USA
Tel. (670) 433-3470 • Email: tiqmunicipalcouncil@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1CMC § 9901), the Honorable Antonio Sn. Borja, Chairman of the Tinian Municipal Council announces that the 16th Tinian Municipal Council will convene the following Regular Session on Thursday, August 17, 2017 @ 5:00 pm at the Tinian Municipal Council Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ROLL CALL
III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
IV. OLD BUSINESS
V. NEW BUSINESS
  A. EAGI Committee Hearing: Jose P. Kiyoshi, Nominee for the Tinian Cockfighting Board
  B. Public Comments
VI. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
VII. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ Antonio Sn Borja
Chariman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
PO Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952
Phone (670) 433-2200 • Fax (670) 433-1819
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Friday, August 18, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of Minutes May 03, 2017
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[1]
III. NEW BUSINESS
  1. Review and discuss appropriated funding.
  2. Review of applicaions for Fall 2017.
IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER
V. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]
VII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/ Antonio L. Borja
Chairman

[1] We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
[3] Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

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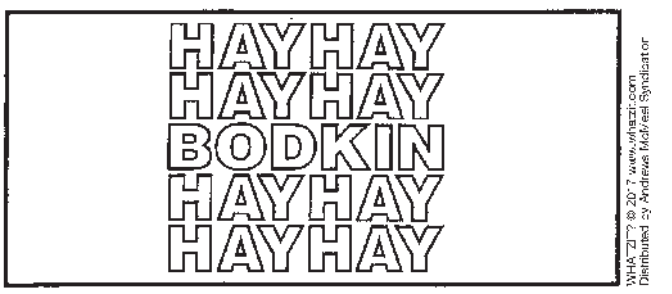

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Thomas picks the right major at the right time to win

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)— The son and grandson of golf professionals, Justin Thomas couldn't think of a better major to win than the PGA Championship.

And at age 24, he couldn't think of a better time.

Youth is taking over the highest level of golf, and there were times Thomas felt left behind. Rory McIlroy already had four majors when he was 25. Closer to home was Jordan Spieth, a close friend since they were 14. Spieth won his third major at the British Open last month to give him three legs of the career Grand Slam.

"Frustration probably isn't the right word," Thomas said. "Jealously definitely is. I wanted to be doing that, and I wasn't."

Sunday at Quail Hollow was his moment.

Starting the final round two shots out of the lead, Thomas closed with a 3-under 68 for a two-shot victory to capture the final major of the year.

It required a little bit of good fortune, like when his tee shot bounced out of a tree and into the fairway on the par-5 10th hole, which ended with his 8-foot putt teetering on the edge of the cup for 12 seconds before gravity finally took over and the ball dropped for birdie.

"I didn't even see it go in," said Thomas, who had his back turned to the cup as he was asking caddie Jimmy Johnson how it didn't go in.

AP

Justin Thomas poses with the Wanamaker Trophy after winning the PGA Championship golf tournament at the Quail Hollow Club Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017, in Charlotte, N.C.

Players are allowed reasonable time to get to the ball, and then they get 10 seconds before they hit the next shot, so he was well within the limit.

He seized control on the back nine with a chip-in for birdie from 40 feet on the par-3 13th hole.

Above all, it required plenty of grit, and Thomas showed plenty of that.

The key moment in his victory came along the infamous "Green Mile" at Quail Hollow, a brutal stretch of holes where players are trying to hang on with pars. Thomas had a one-shot lead over Hideki Matsuyama when he drove into the rough, and his approach tumbled into a bunker. He did well to get that out to 6 feet.

Matsuyama was spared by the thick rough behind the green that kept his ball from going into the water, and he had a good lie that allowed him to chip to 5 feet.

Thomas wasted no time over the putt and drilled into the center of the cup. Matsuyama missed and fell two shots behind.

And then Thomas effectively ended it with a 7-iron so pure that he let the club swirl through his hand as the ball soared over the water, onto the green and rolled out to 15 feet on the 221-yard shot to a peninsula green. His birdie putt swirled into the cup, and the rest was easy.

He finished with a bogey—his first since the third hole—when it no longer mattered. Thomas finished at 8-under 276.

He won by two shots over Francesco Molinari (67), Patrick Reed (67) and Louis Oosthuizen (70), none of whom were a serious threat as they played the 18th.

His real challenge was Matsuyama playing next to him, and Kevin Kisner, the 54-hole leader in the group behind him.

Kisner ran off two important birdies on the 14th and 15th holes to get within one shot, but the final stretch is no place to make up more ground. He three-putted from 100 feet on the 16th hole to fall two back, couldn't convert from long range on the 17th and hit into the water because of mud on his ball on the 18th.

Among those waiting for Thomas alongside the 18th green were his father and Spieth.

Mike Thomas, the longtime pro at Harmony Landing outside Louisville, Kentucky, spread his arms wide as he approached his only son and wrapped them around him. He also made sure to collect an important part of history.

Ever since his son was in elementary school, he has been collecting golf balls from his victory. The total is now 131. Asked if he made sure to get the ball Thomas used to tap in the final putt, Mike Thomas reached into his pocket, smiled and said, "You mean this one?"

The PGA Championship was important to Thomas to take his place among the young elite in the game, and it was important to his family. His grandfather, Paul Thomas, also was a club pro and has been a PGA of America member for 60 years. He was the first person Thomas called.

"As a kid growing up, you want to win all the majors. You want to win any major," Thomas said after his two-shot victory. "For me, the PGA definitely had a special place in my heart, and maybe a special drive. It's just a great win for the family, and it's a moment we'll never forget - all of us."

Spieth was there, too, wanting to celebrate with his friend.

The week began with Spieth's bid to complete the career Grand Slam, and it never got out of the gates. Thomas, endlessly referred to as "Spieth's close friend," emerged from his shadow with a major of his own.

"So awesome, dude," Spieth told him.

Spieth and Thomas first became close when they played the Junior Evian Masters in 2007. Thomas won the 36-hole event and got to play the pro-am the next day with LPGA great Juli Inkster. Spieth caddied for him.

Ten years later, they have won consecutive majors and head into the FedEx Cup playoffs battling for PGA Tour player of the year.

Longtime friends, now both are major champions.

NBA heads to the Holy Land to develop talent, promote values

JERUSALEM (AP)—The NBA is heading to the Holy Land this week, bringing together some of the top emerging talent from across Europe as part of the league's push to attract more foreign players and expand its global reach.

An NBA delegation, led by Commissioner Adam Silver, is in Israel as part of "Basketball Without Borders," a program that hosts training camps for top teenage players throughout the world. The visit comes at a time when Silver is seeking ways to make improvements to a league that, while enjoying a surge in popularity, has seen its product impacted by the dominance of a handful of teams and a recent trend of healthy superstars skipping games to rest.

In an interview, Silver said the program aims to give players who have a legitimate chance of reaching the professional ranks a cultural and athletic experience that would be hard to match.

"It's a realization that in order to develop as an elite player at a relatively young age, you need to begin competing against other elite players. And also you need the benefit of top notch coaching," he said.

Some 60 of the top Under-17 players across Europe will participate- including 40 boys and 20 girls. They will get a chance to train under current and former NBA players and coaches, including Israel's Omri Casspi, a new member of the champion Golden State Warriors, and Hall of Famer David Robinson, as well as leading figures from European basketball.

Off the court, the program also promotes cultural awareness.

"Whatever region we're in, we educate the young folks about what's happening socially, politically, economically in the area they are in," Silver said. "It's life skills in addition to basketball. It's about the values of the game, like leadership and discipline and hard work and respect for each other."

Toward that goal, the program will sponsor a series of clinics and workshops for local youngsters that will include Israeli Jews as well as members of the Muslim, Christian and Druze minorities. Palestinian children from the West Bank will also be participating, Silver said. On Sunday, for instance, the program will dedicate a new "learn and play" center at Jerusalem's YMCA.

"We look for regions where we can have a bigger impact than just the game of basketball," Silver said. Earlier this month, the program held a similar camp in South Africa.

"What we'd like to see is using basketball to build bridges between cultures," he said. "I think it really is true that people, whether on a basketball court, or it's on a soccer pitch, when they compete together they see how much they really do have in common. In this case, it's a shared passion for basketball."

Basketball Without Borders, a partnership with FIBA, the world's governing basketball authority, has held camps in 26 countries since it was launched in 2001. This is the first time Israel, which is part of FIBA's Europe region, has hosted the program. Forty-six former campers, including Casspi, have been drafted by NBA teams.

"I was a BWB camper in 2005 in Italy. To be a part of BWB now in my home country more than a decade later and to have the opportunity to work closely with these talented youth at the camp and conduct events in the community, is truly an amazing experience," Casspi said. "I think the kids will have a fantastic time here while pursuing their dreams at BWB the next couple of days."

The program is part of a push that has turned the NBA into a global sports powerhouse, second only to soccer.

The league says its games are now broadcast in 215 countries and territories, and Silver said basketball has made "enormous inroads" in China and is now gaining momentum around Africa and in India.

The league now holds preseason games in China, regular season games in London and Mexico and broadcasts afternoon games on weekends to make them easier to watch in overseas time zones. The NBA also is in the process of launching soccer-style "academies" around the world to develop promising teenage talent year round.

Developing foreign talent makes good business sense. But it also has been good for the game. Some 25 percent of the NBA's players are now foreign born, and international superstars such as Dirk Nowitzki, Steve Nash and Yao Ming have helped transform the sport in recent years.

Silver said that deepening the talent pool is the best response to complaints that the sport is dominated by a handful of powerhouse teams led by superstar players, leaving most teams without a chance of winning.

"It's a nature of this sport. If you have certain players, you're highly likely to be better than other teams," he said. The best response, he said, is to develop more great players rather than place "artificial ceilings on how good a team can be."

Red Sox rookies Devers, Benintendi lead win over Yanks in 10

NEW YORK (AP)—Rafael Devers hit a stunning homer off Aroldis Chapman to tie the game in the ninth inning, and fellow Red Sox rookie Andrew Benintendi singled home the go-ahead run in the 10th as Boston beat the New York Yankees 3-2 on Sunday night.

Chris Sale struck out 12 in his latest dominant performance, but Boston trailed 2-1 before the 20-year-old Devers connected on a 103 mph fastball and became the second left-handed hitter to homer off Chapman (4-2) in his eight-year career.

By winning a battle of hard-throwing bullpens, the Red Sox upped their AL East lead to a season-high 5 1/2 games over rival New York. Boston (67-50) took two of three in the series and is a season-best 17 games over .500 after winning 10 of its past 11.

Boston closer Craig Kimbrel (4-0) struck out Brett Gardner with a runner on third to end the ninth and then tossed a perfect 10th.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Brock Holt (12) celebrates with Andrew Benintendi after a baseball game against the New York Yankees on Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017, in New York. The Red Sox won 3-2 in 10 innings.

Marlins 5, Rockies 3

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton homered for the fourth straight game, hitting his 42nd of the year to tie the Marlins' season record, and Miami completed its first series sweep of Colorado since 2006.

Stanton homered leading off the third inning to match Gary Sheffield's team record set in 1996. It was the 250th homer of Stanton's career.

Rockies All-Star third baseman Nolan Arenado, the major league RBI leader, left in the fifth inning after being hit on the left hand by an 88 mph fastball thrown by Vance Worley.

German Marquez (9-5) lost for the first time in seven starts, allowing five runs in 4 1/3 innings. Javy Guerra (1-0) earned his first victory since 2014 with two scoreless innings, and Odrisamer Despaigne pitched a perfect ninth for his first big league save.

Dodgers 6, Padres 4

In Los Angeles, Justin Turner hit two home runs, Yasmani Grandal also went deep and Los Angeles won for the 28th time in 33 games, improving the best record in the majors to 83-34. The Dodgers are 16-0-3 in their last 19 series, and haven't lost one since June 5-7 to Washington.

Cory Spangenberg hit two home runs for the Padres.

Kenta Maeda (11-4) went 5 1/3 innings, giving up three earned runs and four hits and striking out eight. Kenley Jansen retired the Padres in order in the ninth for his 32nd save. Luis Perdomo (6-7) was the loser.

Giants 4, Nationals 2, 1st game; Nationals 6, Giants 2, 11 innings, 2nd game

In Washington, Howie Kendrick hit a game-ending grand slam in the 11th inning, and the Nationals salvaged the finale of a day-night doubleheader.

Daniel Murphy and Ryan Zimmerman also homered for Washington in the makeup of Friday night's rainout. Max Scherzer struck out 10 in seven innings and Matt Albers (6-2) pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

It was Washington's first day since slugger Bryce Harper got hurt Saturday when he slipped on first base. The All-Star has a significant bone bruise in his left knee but no ligament damage, general manager Mike Rizzo said. The Nationals hope he can return this season.

Chris Stratton (1-2) led San Francisco to the win in the opener, striking out a career-high 10 in 6 2/3 shutout innings. Joe Panik had three hits and two RBIs, and Sam Dyson got three outs for his ninth save.

San Francisco's A.J. Cole (1-3) allowed three runs and six hits in six innings.

In the nightcap, Murphy singled off Albert Suarez (0-2) leading off the 11th and raced to third on Zimmerman's bloop hit. After Suarez intentionally walked Anthony Rendon, Kendrick homered to left.

Cubs 7, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Jake Arrieta (12-8) won consecutive starts for the first time since early April, Javier Baez and Ian Happ hit consecutive home runs in the eighth inning and Chicago reopened a one-game lead over St. Louis in the NL Central.

Kris Bryant put the Cubs ahead when he scored from second on a wild pitch from Zack Godley (5-5) in the first inning on strike three to Victor Caratini. The reigning NL MVP added his 21st home run of the season in the ninth inning, reaching base for the 13th time in 15 plate appearances during the three-game series.

Arrieta allowed one run and three hits in six innings. Godley had three wild pitches and four walks in 5 2/3 innings, allowing two runs and four hits.

Astros 2, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Dallas Keuchel (10-2) struck out seven in 6 2/3 innings for his first win since June 2 against the Rangers, just before his nearly two-month stint on the disabled list. AL-leading Houston stopped its longest losing streak this season at five games.

Jose Altuve's 17th home run came in the fourth off Andrew Cashner (7-9). Adrian Beltre's 12th homer pulled the Rangers even in the sixth, and Carlos Beltran had a tiebreaking RBI single in the seventh.

Joey Gallo lined into an inning-ending double play with runners at second and third in the eighth against Ken Giles, who struck out two in the ninth for his 23rd save.

Blue Jays 7, Pirates 1

In Toronto, J.A. Happ (6-8) allowed one run and four hits in six innings to win his third straight start, Josh Donaldson hit a two-run homer and Justin Smoak and Darwin Barney added solo homers.

Toronto scored five runs off Chad Kuhl (5-8) while batting around in the first inning and taking a 5-1 lead. Pittsburgh managed just one hit after the first, and none in the final five innings.

Indians 4, Rays 3

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Austin Jackson hit a tiebreaking home run off Tommy Hunter (2-3) leading off the eighth inning.

Corey Kluber (11-3) struck out nine in seven innings for the AL Central leaders, his 14th straight start of fanning eight or more. He gave up four hits, including a two-run homer to Steve Souza Jr. in the sixth that made it 3-all.

Cody Allen pitched the ninth for his 21st save.

Tampa Bay went 2-7 on a nine-game homestand in which the Rays were shut out five times and scored 11 runs.

Twins 6, Tigers 4

In Detroit, Brian Dozier and Miguel Sano homered for Minnesota. The Twins blew an early 4-0 lead but Byron Buxton hit a tiebreaking single off Warwick Saupold after Bruce Rondon (1-3) walked the first two batters in the eighth.

A day earlier, the Twins trailed 5-0, rallied for an 11-6 lead, then lost to the Tigers 12-11 on Justin Upton's two-run homer in the ninth.

Detroit has lost seven of nine.

Minnesota's Chris Gimenez had three passed balls in the fifth and Ervin Santana threw a toss through his legs for a wild pitch.

Tyler Duffey (2-3) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings. Trevor Hildenberger struck out Upton with a runner on first to end the eighth, then pitched the ninth for his first big league save.

Mets 6, Phillies 2

In Philadelphia, Michael Conforto and Curtis Granderson hit two-run homers and the Phillies ran themselves into trouble after Chris Flexen (2-1) loaded the bases in the fifth inning with no outs.

Nick Williams hit a shallow fly to center, and Conforto's throw home scooted away from Travis d'Arnaud. Odubel Herrera put his head down and sprinted for third, unaware Freddy Galvis hadn't moved off the base. D'Arnaud hustled to third to complete a short toss and an 8-2-5 double play.

Zach Eflin (1-4) allowed Conforto's 26th homer and Granderson's 17th.

Royals 14, White Sox 6

In Chicago, Whit Merrifield hit a three-run homer and drove in a career-high five runs. Drew Butera had four of Kansas City's 16 hits as the Royals climb back over .500 at 59-58.

Jason Vargas (14-6) allowed three runs and six hits in six innings, matching his career high for wins set in 2012 with Seattle.

Derek Holland (6-12) lasted just two-plus innings in his shortest start of the year. He was charged with seven runs and seven hits.

Brewers 7, Reds 4

In Milwaukee, Neil Walker had two hits in his Milwaukee debut, and Domingo Santana hit a three-run homer in the fifth off Sal Romano (2-5), who gave up seven runs, six of them earned, in five innings.

Acquired from the New York Mets on Saturday, Walker started at third base in place of the banged-up Travis Shaw and went 2 for 4 with a run scored.

Matt Garza (6-6) allowed four runs — three earned — and five hits in 5 1/3 innings, and Corey Knebel worked the ninth for his 22nd save.

Braves 6, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, R.A. Dickey (8-7) allowed one run and seven hits in seven innings, Brandon Phillips hit a two-run homer and Atlanta stopped the Cardinals' season-high, eight-game winning streak and the Braves' five-game losing streak.

Arodys Vizcaino pitched a perfect ninth for his sixth save. Michael Wacha (9-5) gave up four runs and five hits in eight innings.

Athletics 9, Orioles 3

In Oakland, California, Matt Chapman hit a tiebreaking three-run homer off Jeremy Hellickson (1-2) in a five-run fourth as Oakland overcame a 2-0 deficit.

Manny Machado hit his 22nd homer and scored twice for Baltimore.

Kendall Graveman (3-3) matched his career high of eight strikeouts, allowing two runs and eight hits in seven innings.

Angels 4, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Parker Bridwell (7-1) yielded one run and four hits in six innings, winning his fifth straight decision and extended Los Angeles' winning streak to six as the Angels moved into the second spot in the AL wild-card race.

C.J. Cron homered and Martin Maldonado had a two-run single for the Angels. Ariel Miranda (7-6) walked a career-high six and allowed four runs and four hits in 4 2/3 innings.

MOC paddlers deliver in opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas Outrigger Canoe lived up to high expectations after prevailing in the Northern Marianas National Paddling Sports Federation's Long Distance Race Series 1 held last Saturday.

MOC-A topped the men's long distance race (10-mile course) that started and ended at Kilili Beach after clocking in at 1:12:16. The winning squad was made up of Bobby Cruz, Jose Quan, Billy Grow, Richard Salas, Angel San Nicholas, and Ketson "Jack" Kabriel.

Cruz and company completed the course more than a minute ahead of Saipan Paddling Club, which checked in at 1:13:57. MOC-B also joined the weekend event and placed third after submitting 1:18:18.

The NMNPSF is holding the series of long distance races to help prepare the various local clubs for the 2017 Micro Cup which will be held in Guam from Oct. 26 to 29.

"Any race we could get here is beneficial. The more races we can do, the better it is for us and the rest of the clubs gearing up for the Micro Cup," MOC coach Dino Manning said.

"Races here simulate the condition that we are going to go through when we compete in the Micro Cup. We're looking forward to more warm-up races before the competition in Guam," Manning added.

The second part of the NMNPSF-sanctioned race will be held on Sept. 16 and MOC paddlers, who ruled the series of short course events this year, are again favored against the representatives of other clubs.

Meanwhile, SPC won the ladies race last weekend after posting 1:20:39. SPC finished way ahead of Marianas Pacific Paddlers, which capped the long course in 1:34:17.

In the junior event, which had participants negotiating a six-mile course, Napu Outrigger Canoe Club's boys team made it to the finish line in less than an hour after registering 56:46. A team composed of male and female youth paddlers from Napu, SPC, and MPP also broke the one-hour barrier after recording 58:24, while Napu's female youth squad timed in at 1:02:55.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Outrigger Club paddlers pose for a photo with Napu's Jayson Tarkong, standing left, after competing in the in the Northern Marianas National Paddling Sports Federation's Long Distance Race Series 1 last Saturday.

Titans tie Hustlers on top of Tuesday billiards

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A win by the 9 Eleven Titans, coupled by a loss of sister squad Docomo Hustlers had both teams ending up as co-leaders in the Tuesday division of the Saipan Billiards Association Budweiser Open 8-Ball League.

The Hustlers and Titans are both ahead by two wins, 119-89, from third placer Tasha's Str8 Black Ball's 117-91 slate after Week 16. There are four weeks left in the league and the Bud Cup will be played after the top season champs is known on Sept. 5.

The Chow Time Blue Haus Destroyers are in fourth (114-94) followed by Tasha's Crazy 8 (79-129) and Chow Time Assassins (76-132).

The Titans defeated the Assassins, 9-4, behind the combined efforts of Bill Cepeda Shane Quitugua, Ray Matsunaga, and Simeon Kapileo to join the Hustlers on top of the standings.

The Titans won six straight games after the Assassins went ahead by one, 3-4, after John Reyes bested Quitugua in their Singles 8-Ball match.

Quitugua teamed up with Cepeda in the Partner's 8-Ball to bounce back from that loss. The Titans did not drop a match after that to complete the win.

The Titans had the Destroyers to thank for as they scored an 8-5 win over the Hustlers in the other scheduled game while the Str8 Black Ball also had the same result against the Crazy 8.

The Titans will try to capitalize on their recent victory when they take on the Titans in Week 17 while the Crazy 8 battle the Destroyers. The Assassins clash with the Str8 Black Ball in the other scheduled match.

In the Thursday League, the 9 Eleven MJD Warriors improved to 125-83 following a 10-3 win over the Tasha's Wild Bill's (109-99), while leaders Chow Time 8-Black Ball (128-80) scored a 9-4 win over the Chow Time Blue Haus Homeboyz (87-121).

The 9 Eleven Jam Shooters (80-128) downed cellar dwellers Tasha's Extreme (79-129), 9-4, and the Sands Team SCS (108-100) defeated the 9 Eleven Titans II (116-92), 8-5.

Week 17 games will have the Extreme colliding with the Titans II, the Homeboyz hosting the Jam Shooters, the 8-Black Ball visiting the Warriors, and Team SCS facing Wild Bill's.

Sablan, Norita are MGA's Aces

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Jason Sablan and Ned Norita clinched the two-for-one Aces of the Month organized by the Marianas Golf Association last Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

This was MGA's second combined monthly tournament to make up for the months they failed to hold a golf event of their own.

The club has to give way to local tournaments like the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, Northern Marianas College Foundation, and Tournament of Champions held early this year.

Sablan topped Sunday's event with a net 70 to clinch the August monthly crown with Norita and Marco Peter coming in tied for second place with 72 apiece.

Norita, however, clinched second place and the July Ace after the count back tiebreaker.

Closest to the pin winners were Joey Dela Cruz in hole No. 6, David Largent in No. 8, and James Benavente in No. 15.

Sablan and Norita now join Peter Tenorio (January), Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho (February), Jessica Sonoda (March), J.J. Atalig (April) Gerald Guerrero (May), and Calvin Yamagishi (June) as monthly aces.

MGA, now on its fifth year of being established, returns to its regular monthly tournament on Sept. 16 at the Marianas Counry Club. Show time is at 9am and players tee off after an hour.

MGA is inviting all of its members and other golfers in the community to join them in the tournament.

Atalig (president), Largent (vice president), Geri Dela Cruz (secretary), Benavente (treasurer), and Yamagishi (tournament director) are MGA's current officers.

MGA has an active 30 members made up of young and senior, rookies and veterans, men and women CNMI residents who enjoy the game of golf.

For more information, call Yamagishi at 287-8894 or email MarianasGolf670@gmail.com or visit MGA's Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/MarianasGolfAssociation.

COUNCIL

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the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia, 2013 Mini Games in Wallis and Futuna, and 2015 Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea.

The Oceania Football Confederation signed an agreement with the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) that world ranking points in football competitions in Vanuatu would offer world ranking points.

The same goes with netball, as competing teams in the 2017 Mini Games will have the chance to earn International Netball Federation world ranking points after the event was designated as the Pacific Netball Series. The same rule was followed in 2015.

Weightlifting, based on the 2013 and 2015 Games, participants would earn International Weightlifting Federation world ranking points that would help them gain entry to other international competitions sanctioned by the said IF.

The council would also follow the relevant minimum age limits as applied by all IFs. Those who are turning 15 and 19 on Dec. 31, 2017 for athletics and judo, and boxing while 14 at the opening day of competition for tennis.

Teams could enter two male and two female players that turns 18 on Dec. 31, 2017 for golf while also using a maximum of two golfers in each division that are open age.

It will be 16 years old for the kata and 18 for kumite events of karate at the opening day of competition while 18 for rugby at the start of the preliminary matches.

KAGA

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his Group B tiff against Tahiti's Meheannu Larson, 6-1, 3-6, 7-10. The CNMI's two other bets in the division—Richard Steele and Sean Lee—also lost their first games. Lee fell to Tahiti's Manovai Elie, 0-6, 5-7, while Steele bowed to No. 3 Mohearii Polin, also of Tahiti, 0-6, 4-6.

In the boys U16 singles, the Commonwealth went 3-for-4 with No. 3 Robbie Schorr, No. 4 Michael Ren, and Ken Song winning their opening matches. Ren outclassed Tuvalu's Gavin Molotii, 7-6 (2), 6-1; Ken defeated the Cook Islands' Elijah Amataiti, 6-1, 6-1; and Schorr was awarded the victory via forfeiture against Guam's Camden Camacho. The CNMI missed a sweep in the division when Vincent Tudela lost an extended game against Vanuatu's Samuel Strid, 7-6 (1), 1-6, 1-6.

In the girls U16 singles, Grace Choi had a strong debut after crushing Guam's Joycelyn Tenai, 6-0, 6-1. Malika Miyawaki faltered in her opener opposite Vanuatu's Rosalie Molballeh, 1-6, 1-6, while No. 1 seed Carol Lee did not play yesterday and will have her first match today against Vanuatu's Daisy Sipiti.

In other results, the CNMI's Daniel Kang and Anthony Gregoire bowed to West Pacific's Ashley Vora and Ali Tofikai in the U12 team event, losing both singles matches and the lone doubles game. Hye Jin Elliot and her North Pacific teammate Leilah Etscheit of the Federated States of Micronesia suffered the same misfortunes in the girls division.

KOREAN

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CNMI Boys U18 National Team went to Changnyeong Sports Park and held a five-day training camp at the facility, playing four matches against Japan's Kunimi High School and Kyoto Kyoei Gakuen and the hosts' New Yangdong FC and Gwangju FC.

"I believed your team had some good games there and I hope the training camp will help prepare them for the AFC U19 Championship 2018 Qualifiers," said Chung, whose national youth team is entered in the same tournament, but in a different bracket (Group F).

"We would love to help your youth teams," the AFC and EAFF vice president added.

Chung also said he hopes to bring Korean teams on Saipan because the island is an ideal location for their squads during winter.

"The weather is nice and the people are very warm. I am sure our teams would love to play and train here," he said.

Meanwhile, NMIFA president Jerry Tan said the support they get from KFA and other EAFF and AFC members is very important in the association's goal of bringing CNMI football to the next level.

"It's not easy since we are way behind other EAFF or AFC members if we talk about when they started with the program. We started in 2005 and in that year, Guam celebrated its 30th anniversary, so just imagine the gap. However, through the help of our friends in EAFF and AFC and other members of these federations, we're getting there. We're on course toward elevating CNMI football and providing our players, coaches, and officials the opportunities they need to develop their skills," Tan said.

"I am very thankful to Mr. Chung and KFA for their assistance to our team during its training camp in Korea. They are definitely welcome to come here if they decide to play or train," the NMIFA head added.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	67	50	.573	—
New York	61	55	.526	5½
Tampa Bay	59	60	.496	9
Baltimore	58	60	.492	9½
Toronto	56	61	.479	11

Central Division

Cleveland	63	52	.548	—
Minnesota	59	57	.509	4½
Kansas City	59	58	.504	5
Detroit	53	64	.453	11
Chicago	45	70	.391	18

West Division

Houston	72	45	.615	—
Los Angeles	61	58	.513	12
Seattle	59	60	.496	14
Texas	56	60	.483	15½
Oakland	52	66	.441	20½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	70	46	.603	—
Miami	56	60	.483	14
New York	53	62	.461	16½
Atlanta	52	63	.452	17½
Philadelphia	43	72	.374	26½

Central DivisionH

Chicago	61	55	.526	—
St. Louis	61	57	.517	1
Milwaukee	61	59	.508	2
Pittsburgh	58	60	.492	4
Cincinnati	49	69	.415	13

West Division

Los Angeles	83	34	.709	—
Arizona	65	52	.556	18
Colorado	65	52	.556	18
San Diego	51	66	.436	32
San Francisco	47	72	.395	37

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament Girls U17 Playoffs

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hakone FC's Jasmine Phan, right, and Marianas Health Armada's Brittany Wally chase the ball during their playoff game in the girls U17 division of the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament early this month at the TSL Sports Complex.

F. Marinos' Carla Ballesteros catches the ball during their playoff match versus Isamu United.

Hakone FC, left, and Marianas Health Armada players fight for possession.

Hakone FC's De'Jana Muna, right, dribbles away from the defense of Isamu United's Therize Millare.

Marianas Health Armada's Chevy Kate Alipio, left, beats Hakone FC's Katrina Costales to the ball.

Hakone FC's Theresa Toves throws the ball.

F. Marinos' Bernadette Horey, center, passes the ball to teammate De'Jana Muna, right, as Isamu United's Therize Millare closes in on defense.

Marianas Health Armada's Jerlyn Castillo, left, attempts a shot in front of Hakone FC defenders.

Thomas picks the right major at the right time to win

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Red Sox rookies Devers, Benintendi lead win over Yanks in 10

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Kaga siblings off to strong start

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Conatsu Kaga, seen here in a local tournament, won her first game in the girls U14 singles division of the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sisters Coume and Conatsu Kaga put on a show in the opening day of the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after dominating their respective opponents in Lautoka, Fiji.

The No. 3 seed Coume whipped the Solomon Islands' Marion Goatee, 6-1, 6-1, in their pool play match in Group D's girls U14 singles yesterday, while over at the Group C pairing, the former's older sister Conatsu stunned No. 4 Celine Snogan of Tahiti in similar scores.

Before competing in the POJC, the Kaga siblings have been in Fiji for nearly eight months, training at the regional facility and CNMI Junior National Team coach Jeff Race earlier said he is excited to see the development of the two players since they left Saipan. Conatsu and Coume gave Race a glimpse of what they are capable of with their convincing victories on Day 1 of the POJC.

Ji Min Woo and Seung Jin Paik are the two other players who have been at the ITF/OTF training facility and they had mixed fortunes in yesterday's pool play matches in the boys U14 singles. No. 1 Woo is in Group A and swept Fiji's Avikash Kumar, 6-1, 6-0, while Paik dropped a three-setter in

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Korean football official vows support to CNMI

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Korean Football Association will continue to help the CNMI through the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association for the development of the sport in the Commonwealth.

"NMIFA, just like Korea Football Association, is part of the East Asian Football Federation and the Asian Football Confederation, so we are family and we are always ready to help your FA, which has been working hard to promote and improve the sport of football here," said KFA president and FIFA Council member Chung Mong-Gyu, who was on Saipan last weekend for a short visit.

"We can help bring coaches, officials, and players to help NMIFA in its programs and activities or your players can come to Korea and train there," Chung said.

Earlier this month, the

See KOREAN on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
KFA president and FIFA Council member Chung Mong-Gyu, left, presents the Korean national team jersey to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres during a welcome dinner for the Saipan visitor last weekend.

Council issues reminders for Vanuatu Games

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Pacific Games Council is reminding all member nations that would be fielding teams in football, netball, Rugby 7s, and weightlifting in this year's Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu to exercise their discretionary powers in terms of eligibility regulations.

The council's executive board decided that eligibility regulations of the international federations in the said sports would be used in the 10th edition of the quadrennial Games at Port Vila.

Aside from athletics, golf, and 3x3 basketball, the CNMI will participate in Rugby 7s in the Mini Games in Vanuatu with the national team honing up their skills by competing in the Heineken International 7s in Guam where they will be up against several top Asian teams in the Aug. 26 and 27 at the University of Guam Field.

The board—president Vidhya Lakan, vice president Marcus Stephen, secretary general David Boyd, treasurer John Tierney, athletes representative Ryan Pini, and member Frida Delmau—said they based their decision on Article 26.1.d (iii) of the PGC Constitution.

As per council regulations, athletes that are passport holders of the country they are representing must have a minimum of five years residency in all sports not including the said four.

Football, netball, and weightlifting are also offering world ranking points to teams and individuals that would join while earning a spot in one of the legs of the World Rugby 7s Series will be at stake.

Competing teams in Rugby 7s in the Mini Games will have the chance to earn qualifying spots for a leg in the annual World Series. The same rule was used during

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members of the CNMI Rugby 7s national team continue to train at the Airport Field in preparation for the Pacific Mini Games in Port Vila, Vanuatu in December.